

Diplomatic dilemma over Iraq

MoD experts back 'super gun' theory

By Michael Evans, Robin Oakley and Stewart Tisdler

BRITAIN was facing a diplomatic dilemma last night after Ministry of Defence experts confirmed that the heavy "oil piping" equipment seized at Teesport were sections of a huge artillery gun barrel bound for Iraq.

After a five-hour examination of the contents of eight crates offloaded from the merchant vessel, Gur Mariner, Mr Douglas Tweddle, Customs chief investigations officer, announced: "There is no question that it could be used as a barrel of a large artillery gun to fire a projectile of some considerable size."

"We're now satisfied that this equipment is covered by the Munitions List of the Export of Goods Control Order 1989."

British intelligence is believed to have established clear links between the 150-ton gun barrel - which would be capable of firing nuclear and chemical shells hundreds of miles - and Dr Gerald Bull, a Canadian-born ballistics expert who was murdered in Brussels last month. Customs investigators believe Dr Bull may have designed it.

The discovery and its ramifications will figure in talks today between Mrs Margaret Thatcher and President Bush at their one-day summit in Baghdad.

"British sources there confirmed that the subject was an explosive which was far from being shrugged off as a bizarre interlude."

They emphasized that it was vital to take all possible measures to ensure that such countries as Iraq did not develop the ability to make nuclear armaments.

However, the Foreign Office admitted that events at Teesport would complicate Britain's relations with Iraq, which have been strained since the hanging of the journalist Mr Farzad Bazoft.

Ministers will want to do nothing to put the 2,000 British nationals in Iraq - including Mrs Daphne Parish and Mr Ian Richter, who are in jail accused of spying - at risk, and last night the Foreign Office said there were no plans to call in the ambassador about the equipment.

Whitehall sources said the latest discovery was not in the same category as the incident two weeks ago when 40 items, described as nuclear trigger devices, were seized at Heathrow airport. That case involved an Iraqi national, Mr Omar Latif, who was subsequently deported.

The ambassador, Dr Azmi Shafiq Al-Salhi, yesterday categorically denied that the tubes were part of a giant gun. "We ordered this for petrochemical purposes," he said.

"We have so many of these pipes from England and so many deals, all openly done by telefax. We don't deal with our made and commercial relations illegally at all."

"I do not believe that Iraq can buy from England a gun barrel after this huge campaign against my country? Could we dare to buy weapons or something used to make weapons after the campaign waged against us?"

In Iraq, the claims that the equipment was part of a gun were dismissed as part of a "fervent orchestrated campaign by British and Zionist circles" to create the right international climate to enable Israel to launch another pre-emptive strike against the country's rapidly developing military industry. And President Saddam Hussein told a US Senate delegation that Iraq would destroy its weapons for mass destruction if Israel would do the same.

The Ministry of Defence expert who examined the seized cargo yesterday found the barrel components were



Dr Gerald Bull, the Canadian scientist believed to have designed a huge gun for Iraq, standing alongside his 68ft projectile gun at Quebec space research centre in 1965. Dr Bull was murdered in Brussels last month

Rising inflation fuels higher wage demands

By Colin Narborough and Nicholas Wood

AVERAGE earnings have started to climb again after holding steady for four months, confirming fears that persistent and rising inflation is fuelling wage demands when the Government was hoping for slower pay growth.

The Government has been urging wage negotiators to moderate their demands if they wish to avoid a rise in unemployment. Whitehall figures published yesterday, however, showed average earnings rising by an annual 9.5 per cent in February.

The rise from 9.25 per cent comes in spite of an evident slowdown in the economy and signs that falling unemployment will soon be at an end.

As Mr John Major, the Chancellor, forecast in the Budget, inflation has renewed its rise, surging to an annual rate of 8.1 per cent last month on the retail price index - the highest since last July - from 7.5 per cent the month before. This takes it close to last year's inflation peak of 8.3 per cent.

With the effects of the poll tax and scheduled price rises for electricity, water and gas due to surface in this month's RPI data, the inflation rate is expected to climb past 9.5 per cent.

The underlying inflation rate, which excluded mortgage rates, showed a worrying rise too, moving up from 6.2 per cent to 6.3 per cent - the highest since February 1983.

Mr John Smith, the Shadow Chancellor, said the latest figures showed that inflation was rising sharply.

Mr Michael Howard, the Secretary of State for Employment, said on BBC radio's *World at One* programme that the latest reduction in unemployment - the 44th consecutive monthly drop - was testimony to the "continuing basic strength of the British economy".

The danger was that a combination of excessive wage settlements, not matched by productivity increases, would undermine the competitiveness of employers and cause a loss in jobs.

Labour market data yesterday showed unemployment falling by a seasonally adjusted 6,800 last month to 1,603,600, or 5.6 per cent of the workforce.

Inflation fears, page 23
Comment, page 25

Jails 'short of staff'

By Quentin Cowdry

THE Government is being warned by independent prison "watchdogs" that staff shortages are undermining regimes and increasing tensions.

A number of annual reports by boards of visitors, sent to the Home Secretary, say that lack of staff is forcing governors to keep inmates in cells longer than necessary.

At Strangeways jail in Manchester, meanwhile, the siege entered its 13th day.

Prison tension, page 2
Letters, page 9

Rapid move to reunification

East Germany's new coalition Government will pursue reunification "rapidly and responsibly" in accordance with Article 23 of West Germany's Basic Law which requires a referendum in the East.

This was announced by Hans Martin Genscher, the government's spokesman, after the Volkskammer approved the new Cabinet.

The Government also envisages Nato membership by a united Germany. The two Germanies will start talks in East Berlin on a treaty to make the Deutschmark the common currency. Page 7

Problem lessons

Many primary schools are prevented from properly teaching mathematics, English and science as required under the National Curriculum because of severe staffing problems, a school inspectors' report has said. But lessons have improved considerably since last autumn. Page 4

Yardley sale

SmithKline Beecham, the transatlantic healthcare group, has sold its Yardley cosmetics, Leithbridge perfumes and Morny soaps to Old Bond Street Corporation of the US for £110 million. Page 23

Dixon's call-up

Lee Dixon, the Arsenal defender, will play for England against Czechoslovakia on Wednesday week because of the unavailability of his three main rivals for the right back position. Page 40

Cup tragedy

Ray Houghton, who was in his first season as a Liverpool player, recalls the FA Cup semi-final at Sheffield Wednesday's Hillsborough stadium last year, when 95 supporters lost their lives behind the barrier at the Leppings Lane end of the ground. Page 36

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Thatcher to fight US 'lame duck' image

From Robin Oakley, Political Editor, Hamilton, Bermuda

MRS Thatcher, conscious that she is on trial at her summit meeting with President Bush in Bermuda today from an American press corps excited by reports of poll tax and prison riots in Britain and by predictions that her domination of British politics is approaching its end, is clearly anxious not to be treated as a lame duck Prime Minister.

British sources were keen to emphasize that she was intending to fight on unbowed by her domestic problems and that she had climbed out of similar troughs in unpopularity before. The new tone in the American press was shrugged off as: "They build you up - and they knock you down." As

she landed in Bermuda yesterday, officials conceded: "It is rough, but we have had it before."

Poll tax riots were dismissed as the work of anarchists and revolutionaries. The latest rise in inflation was shrugged off as fully anticipated, with the acknowledgement that it would get worse before it got better.

The indications last night were that the meeting between President Bush and Mrs Thatcher will be the most amiable yet of their six encounters since he became President.

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Leading article, page 9

We were duped, admits left-behind Marchais

From Philip Jacobson, Paris



M. Marchais: Covering up party's wrinkles

BAITING the ageing leader of the French Communist Party, M. Georges René Louis Marchais, has long been a popular bloodsport in certain quarters here, much encouraged by his own inability to keep quiet when the going gets tricky. It was entirely in character, then, for the man to shoot himself painfully in the foot in the act of promoting his latest book live on nationwide television.

All those fraternal visits, all those excruciatingly tedious speeches in praise of famous tyrants. It was an honest mistake, he appeared to be arguing. Nobody should now lay the blame at his door simply because he had believed everything he was told. M. Marchais continued plaintively, suddenly a rather less imposing figure than the Great Helmsman who has not hesitated to purge would-be reformers from his party.

Then it was time to bite the bullet.

decades - among the last in Western Europe to accept, officially at least, that the system was rotten to the core?

Ah well, said M. Marchais, apparently unfazed, the truth is that leaders of the Communist bloc had been grievously misleading us. "We were duped," he said, gazing steadfastly into the cameras recording the moment for the programme *L'Heure de Vérité*.

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"The form of socialism put into effect until now in the countries of the East, even if there have been benefits, has failed."

This was the first occasion on which M. Marchais, who turns 70 in June, had ventured into a television studio since the political upheavals began in Eastern Europe late last year - and he may wish he had stayed away. The instant he appeared, there must have been viewers all over France thinking: he's had his face lifted. As far as could be seen, the familiar rugged features, a godsend to cartoonists, bore barely a wrinkle; no extra chins, no deepening of the bags beneath the deep-set eyes.

All in all, meat and drink to France's conservative press, which moved in for the kill. "Either the Communist leadership was blind, or they were imbeciles," was the rough judgement of *Le Quotidien de Paris*.



David Gower: "I can see their problem"

Stewart vetoes Gower comeback

From Alan Lee, Cricket Correspondent, St John's, Antigua

DAVID Gower yesterday came within half an hour of returning to the England team for the fifth and final Test match against West Indies here - eight months after he had been dismissed as captain.

I understand that Allan Lamb, the acting captain, wanted Gower in his team; but Micky Stewart, the team manager, insisted it would be wrong for him to replace a fit member of the original party.

Gower has batted only twice since last summer. He covered the first three Tests for *The Times* before joining his new county, Hampshire, on tour in Barbados. He was asked on Wednesday evening if he felt prepared to play. He told Lamb that he was, but half an hour before the start of play he learnt he had been left out.

He said: "I was nervous but having got myself worked up to doing it, I am a bit disappointed. But I can well see their problem in dropping one of the regular guys."

England batted first and progressed steadily, despite losing Stewart, Larkins and Bailey. At tea they had scored 145 for 3.

Full report, page 42

Spanish control delay for Easter flights

By Michael Horsnell

EASTER holiday flights to Spain and Portugal were subject to delays yesterday as Spanish air traffic controllers imposed restrictions as a safety precaution in the face of a record level of British holiday flights.

Other delays were predicted as French flight planning staff began industrial action today.

The more than 110,000 passengers a day planning to fly from Heathrow during Easter week were warned that multi-million pound security developments will delay their departure if they persist in carrying more than one item of hand luggage.

Holidaymakers were warned not to gift-wrap Easter presents, including Easter eggs, because they will all have to be screened.

But those who opted to stay at home because package holidays were sold out were offered the solace of cheaper petrol as they headed for the coast and beauty spots.

Petrol prices began to fall by 5p per gallon yesterday in time for the Easter rush and could signal a move to even lower prices by the summer. Both Shell and Fina announced they were cutting pump prices in line with large falls in the cost of supplies from Rotterdam's spot market. Other oil firms are expected to follow suit to push average prices below £2 a gallon.

As an extra reward for staying in Britain motorists will find roadworks on most of the national motorway network have been suspended for the Easter period in an attempt to ease congestion.

Nevertheless, in London and the South-East particularly, motorists are warned to expect traffic blackspots.

Gloomy weather with falling temperatures and widespread showers was forecast for most of the holiday.

Unperturbed by recent disasters at sea, ferry bookings are up, while demand for seats on trains has forced British Rail to reimpose its boarding pass scheme on the busiest InterCity services from London.

Another seasonal problem arose when North Surrey Water Company advised their customers to boil drinking water even though it is likely to be safe. Exceptionally fine weather and low rainfall has allowed large quantities of algae to form in the River Thames, thus reducing the efficiency of water treatment.

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Forecast details, page 22

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US sparks fear of Iraq spreading deadly chemicals

From Christopher Walker, Cairo

ANXIETY in the Middle East was intensified yesterday by reports from American intelligence analysts that Iraq is now developing deadly biological weapons, including anthrax, typhoid and cholera bacteria and viruses over a wide area. Weapons experts said that shells to spread the diseases could, in theory, be fired from the type of giant gun whose components were seized in Britain disguised as equipment for Iraq's petrochemical industry. Quoting US intelligence sources, the American television network NBC said that

which confirmed claims by Israeli military sources, NBC showed a satellite picture of what it claimed is the Iraqi biological weapons production facility, complete with an area for animal experiments. Combined with recent allegations of Iraq striving to develop chemical and nuclear weapons capabilities, the new disclosures of its military ambitions are thought to increase the chance of a pre-emptive strike or sabotage by Israel.

"There comes a point when the Israelis are going to feel that world opinion is so appalled by what President Saddam Hussein [of Iraq] is up to that it gives them at least moral support for such an attack," a European envoy said.

NBC disclosed that the US Centre for Disease Control, a US government agency, unwittingly added to Iraq's stockpile of viruses in 1985 when it sent Baghdad three shipments of West Nile Fever, a deadly virus that can be developed for germ weapons.

Despite denials by Iraq, Western experts believe that Iraq's research into the type of germ warfare alleged by NBC has been in progress for more than two years.

It is understood that the US has been reluctant to make a public protest until it feels it can reveal evidence without compromising intelligence sources. US officials have hinted strongly that a typhoid outbreak among Kurdish rebels fighting the Iraqis might have been caused by the release of a biological agent.

Iraq was widely condemned for use of poison gas against its Kurdish minority said to have resulted in 5,000 deaths. It was also accused of using chemical weapons against Iran in the eight-year Gulf War.

The NBC report, apparently compiled with co-operation from the US intelligence community, is the first exposure of Iraq's biological weapons drive during the current crisis over Middle East arms development, which began when President Hussein threatened to destroy half of Israel with chemical weapons if subject to a nuclear attack.

Describing the latest evidence of Iraq's efforts to develop weaponry for biological warfare, a Western military expert said yesterday: "I hope it has given people another chance to realize the nightmare that could develop in the Middle East if a binding peace settlement is not achieved."

Small operation with big target

By Michael Evans, Defence Correspondent

OPERATION Bertha lasted only five days. It was very different from the 18-month joint US/British Customs investigation, codenamed Operation Argos, which uncovered an alleged plot to smuggle 40 nuclear trigger devices from Heathrow to Baghdad two weeks ago.

Codenames for undercover operations are normally selected before investigations start. Operation Argos was a longstanding codename.

Bertha was chosen as the codename for the Middlebrook operation only after a small team of Customs officers had secretly opened a number of crates from the Bahamas-registered merchant vessel, Gur Mariner, at Teesport in Middlesbrough. The crates were marked "Republic of Iraq, Ministry for Industries and Minerals, Petrochemical Project, Baghdad."

The team involved was of highly experienced Customs experts who are trained to uncover illegal arms exports and banned high technology computer equipment bound for the Soviet Union.

Customs have four of these strategic equipment "target teams", led by Mr Pat Blackshaw, assistant chief investigations officer, who was in charge of the investigation into the latest shipment to Iraq.

The inquiry began on Monday, not because of a tip off from the Security Service, but because normal Customs intelligence had cast doubt over a consignment of equipment for Iraq. Customs had

been on special alert since the discovery of the alleged Iraqi plot to fly 40 nuclear capacitors to Baghdad.

The small Customs target team examined several of the crates in a warehouse on the Teesport docks on Monday night. What they saw inside convinced them that the heavy pipes were not connected with the oil business but were sections of a huge gun. Operation Bertha — named after Big Bertha, the First World War German howitzer — was thus born.

The watch was maintained on the dockside but no action was taken until Wednesday when export agents presented documentation for the containers.

Unfortunately for the Customs, however, news of the discovery leaked to the *Middlesbrough Evening Gazette*. Customs did not want any information made public until a Ministry of Defence expert had identified the equipment as gun parts.

Confronted by the evening paper, Customs had to confirm that a consignment had been detained. Although they had to wait 24 hours for a Ministry of Defence team to arrive, the Customs officials remained convinced that a 40-metre-long gun was sitting in eight crates on Bertha Seven at Teesport.

However, until the MoD team agreed with their assessment, doubt remained if only because of the sheer size of the barrel — reminiscent of the two world wars, but not of modern artillery systems.

Assembly massive task

By Our Defence Correspondent

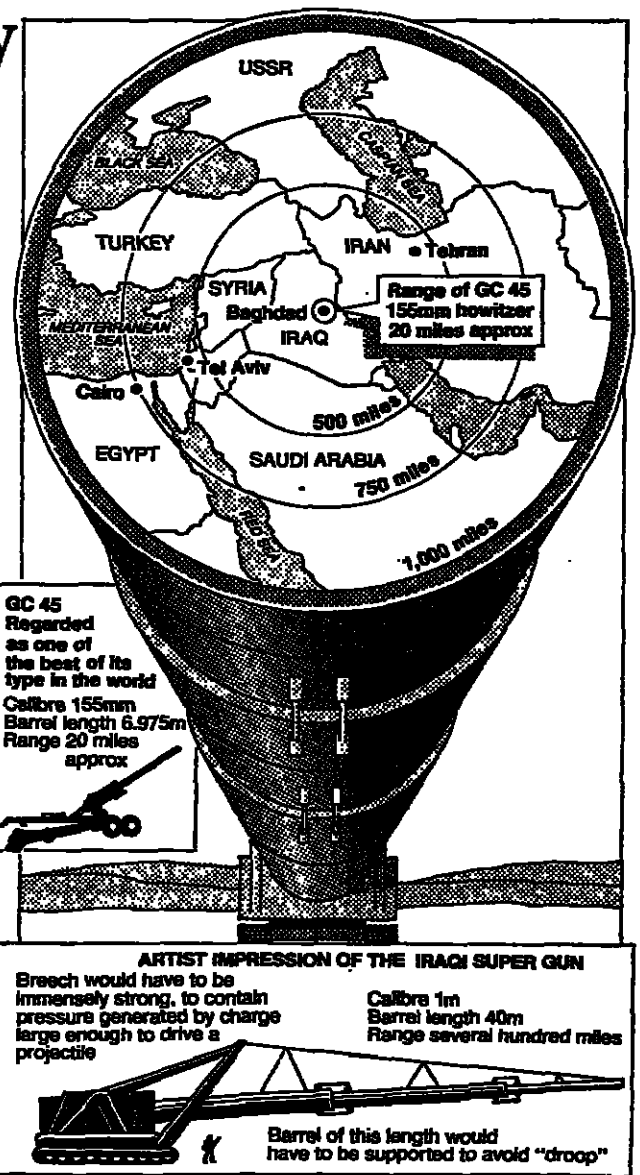
The Iraqis would have faced huge technical problems in trying to assemble a gun with a 40-metre barrel, according to experts yesterday.

The barrel would need extensive support to avoid "droop", and to send a shell several hundred miles the breech would have to be able to withstand enormous pressure.

In the two world wars, the Germans developed similar artillery guns that relied on massive pylons and often huge concrete emplacements to keep them stable.

One of the most famous German guns of the Second World War was the Hochdruckpumpe (HDP) which was located near Calais and fired shells at 4,500ft per second at London. But the 150 yard barrel, made up of separate pieces joined together, frequently cracked under pressure. The damaged sections were being replaced continually.

Sufficient pressure was built up to launch the shells more than 85 miles with the help of a series of charges that were detonated in separate breeches which ran up each side of the barrel "like a fishbone".



A lone prisoner gazes down from the devastated roof of Strangeways yesterday

Staff shortages fuelling prison tension, reports say

By Our Home Affairs Correspondent

MINISTERS were warned by independent prison "watchdogs" yesterday that staff shortages were fuelling tensions in jails.

The warnings, contained in the latest annual reports of prison boards of visitors, were revealed as the "occupation" at Strangeways jail in Manchester entered its 13th day, with staff apparently still determined to end the protest peacefully.

The Home Office said it believed

that there were "less than 15" protesters still holding out. Staff voiced the hope that lack of food and water for the inmates would shortly bring their action to an end.

At Swansea prison in West Glamorgan a 17-hour siege by two teenage inmates, who barricaded themselves in a cell, ended without violence when the prisoners surrendered.

Mr Waddington, it has emerged, has been told by boards of visitors that regimes at two of the jails hit by the recent prison riots are being undermined by staff shortages. At

both Bristol prison and Glen Parva young offenders institution, near Leicester, shortages mean that prisoners are spending unnecessarily long periods in their cells, boards claim.

The Home Office has denied that there is serious undermanning, though it has drafted in an extra 200 prison officers to help to reduce the "stress" being felt by staff.

The report on Bristol prison, where a wing was seriously damaged last Sunday night when 450 inmates rioted, criticizes the Government for an alleged "lack of purpose" in

dealing with prison problems. Mr Donald Hills, the board's former chairman who compiled the report, said yesterday that workshops had often to be closed through lack of staff.

More criticism about staffing is made by Glen Parva's board of visitors, which says that every effort has been made at the jail to economize on officer time since May 1987 when the Fresh Start agreement was struck between prison officers and management.

Letters, page 9

New management team turned £60m losses into profit

SHEFFIELD Forgemasters has turned losses of more than £60 million into profits during the past five years.

The company was formed in 1982 by the British Steel River Don business and the Johnson and Firth Brown Group, and made the losses in its first three years.

Added problems were caused by a 16-week strike over changes introduced by the management brought in at the beginning of 1985 to turn round the company.

For the five months up to

March 31, last year it declared a pre-tax profit of £5 million.

Workers at the company are at present on strike over pay.

Forgemasters was one of four joint-venture companies set up by the British Steel Corporation and the private sector under the Phoenix programme for rationalizing the steel industry. It was the most ailing and its performance the most disastrous.

However, a new management team, led by Mr Philip Wright, the chief executive, set it on the road to recovery.

In 1988, the company was the target of a £26 million management buyout.

It employs more than 2,500 people and has a turnover of over £100 million, manufacturing some of the most advanced aerospace steels and alloys of any European steelmaker.

Almost two-thirds of turnover is generated by products which ultimately are sent overseas.

In an article in *Defence Industry Digest* last year, Mr Des Kavanagh, the company's divisional chief executive, said that the group wanted to advance from a base of producing rocket motor casings and torpedo tube doors, plus a stake in almost every UK aerospace programme, into a broader area of defence activities.

Central to those plans was its big £14 million forging machine, one of only two in the world.

In the same article, Mr Wright criticized the Government for failing to understand "anything outside of value for money" on particular deals, with the company suffering under Whitehall's purchasing policy on defence equipment.

Ship still on charter to Iraqis

THE Gur Mariner was bought by its Panamanian owners at the beginning of April, while the vessel was on charter to the Iraqi Maritime Organization (Mark Souster writes).

It was previously named the Natasha II and was owned by the Natasha II Marine Company of Piraeus, Greece.

The change of ownership and name was registered with the Lloyds Register of Shipping on April 2. The Gur Mariner, built in 1978 and with a dead weight of 15,765 tonnes, is now owned by Azahara Maritime Inc of Panama, and registered in Nassau, the Bahamas.

Its managers, Jay Ships of London, confirmed yesterday that the vessel was still on charter to the Iraqis.

The cargo's insurers are not known but Lloyds of London said the insurance would be invalid because of contravention of customs regulations.

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Capped councils launch test case over poll tax

By Ray Clancy

THE first of the 21 councils to have its community charge capped by the Government has applied to the High Court for a judicial review of the decision.

The application from the London Borough of Hammersmith and Fulham is likely to be a test case and has been adjourned until April 24 to allow the Department of the Environment to prepare for the hearing.

The other 20 authorities are considering legal action and an announcement is expected after a council leaders meeting next week.

Mr Mike Goodman, leader

of Labour-controlled Hammersmith and Fulham, said: "The basis for our legal challenge is the Government's use of the standard spending assessment as its principle criteria for charge-capping local councils."

"Our action will be crucial for all capped authorities. We are advised that we have a good prospect of success as the Secretary of State has not exercised his discretion according to the law."

The standard spending assessments, the amount the Government thinks councils ought to be spending, were based on predictions that inflation would be around 4 per cent. Councils all over the country have described the assessments as unfair because they are based on false inflation figures.

Lawyers acting for the councils are also examining the criteria used by Mr Chris Patten, the Secretary of State, to pick out those who were capped and could prepare a court case on the basis of "unfairness". Meanwhile, the authority from which eighteen Conservative councillors resigned the party whip over the poll tax is considering not collecting that part of the charge, which goes into the Government's safety net.

West Oxfordshire councillors and officers agreed yesterday that the safety net, aimed at protecting areas where rates used to be low from high charges, has been miscalculated for their area.

Mr Neil Robson, the council's Chief Executive and Treasurer, has written to the Prime Minister asking for a reassessment and if the council can stop collecting the £47 per head safety net contribution until the figures have been examined.

"The implementation of the safety net has gone wrong. The formula used does not apply to West Oxfordshire where the average rateable value was £118, far below the £160 average for England and Wales. We should be a receiver from the safety net not a contributor," Mr Robson said.

Police are hunting a poll tax confidence trickster who is preying on worried pensioners in the Cradley Heath area of Sandwell, West Midlands, by calling at their homes, claiming to be from Sandwell Council and demanding their £420 poll tax payments on the spot.

Derbyshire firm on police chief

The dispute over the Home Office's refusal to endorse Mr John Wesley as Chief Constable of Derbyshire intensified yesterday (Craig Seton writes).

A committee of members of the Labour-controlled police authority refused to withdraw its decision to appoint him, reconfirmed its offer, and asked for an urgent meeting with Mr David Waddington, the Home Secretary.

The Home Office denied yesterday that its decision was political, but no official reason has been given for its action.

Mr Wesley, aged 52, the deputy chief constable, has been acting chief constable since February, when the Home Office first refused to endorse his name on a shortlist of candidates for the post.

Radiation study

Evidence supporting a theory that some children develop leukaemia because of the effects of radiation on their fathers' sperm is published today in the *British Medical Journal*. It says serious consideration must be given to the possibility that radiation could cause mutagenic changes in sperm.

Kidnap inquiry

Police in Belfast are investigating a kidnapping in which a family reportedly paid a five-figure sum for the safe return of their 15-year-old daughter. Police said she was abducted by armed men from her home in west Belfast last weekend. She is thought to have been held for several hours.

£148,500 bronze

A 17th century bronze inspired by Giambologna which was bought for about £120 at an antique market 15 years ago made £148,500 at Sotheby's in London yesterday. The Hercules had stood neglected in a Welsh garden until the owners read of a similar discovery last December.

CORRECTIONS

Mother Teresa was born in Skopje, now Yugoslavia, then Albania, not Armenia, as stated in our article yesterday.

The Bristol Old Vic's studio theatre, not the Old Vic itself as indicated in early editions on Wednesday, is temporarily closed. The Half Moon Theatre, London, needs about £200,000 to prevent closure, not £2 million as stated.

Oldest law enforcers move into spotlight

By Stewart Tisdler, Crime Correspondent

THE oldest law enforcement agency in the country, the Customs and Excise service, which is at the centre of the Iraqi gun investigation, has moved in the past decade from a taciturn organization into one with a highly-polished public image.

The heroes of BBC Television's fly-on-the-wall series *The Duty Men* come from a service that was created by King John in 1203. It has had a chequered history.

In the 17th century Customs officials were ordered to pay Nell Gwyn, mistress of Charles II, £500 from their takings — an estimated £250,000 in today's value. In the next century they were often involved in violent

confrontations with drink and tobacco smugglers. Now they are a vital defence against drug traffickers, earning the reputation of a fair and incorruptible service with a powerful intelligence network envied by many detectives. They were fighting the traffickers when police either avoided the problem or did not see the potential risk.

In the past decade as police have asserted themselves in drugs investigations, the two organizations have sometimes been unhappy bedfellows with disputes and rivalry.

There are 26,000 Customs staff compared with a police service in England and Wales of more than 120,000 officers backed by thousands of support staff. Customs officers are

members of the Civil Service, unarmed and equipped with powers to arrest and detain. Customs equipment includes fast patrol boats, high technology and computerization including the Cedric intelligence system.

Until recently all entry to the Customs service was via the Civil Service, but now the Customs administrators are experimenting with direct entry to the investigation branch for recruits with previous experience in the Armed Forces.

The basic entry requirement is four O levels at the age of 18 with an annual salary of between £6,715 to £6,994, plus overtime, as an executive officer. Starting salary for a London policeman is £12,000 plus benefits.

After seven years the Customs

officer's salary reaches £11,632-£12,115. The officer may for example work as a uniformed officer in the Preventive Branch monitoring traffic at the ports and airports.

After three years' experience he or she could join the 900 staff of the investigation and intelligence branches. Graded on entry as higher executive officers, the officers earn no overtime but a flat rate of £19,729-£19,556 a year.

The investigation branches include specialist teams in cocaine, heroin and cannabis smuggling, Common Agricultural Policy fraud, VAT fraud; general areas such as pornography smuggling and the high technology and strategic team which was called into the Iraqi case.

TRAVEL AND WEATHER

Industrial action may delay some holiday flights

By Michael Horsnell

GIFT-WRAPPED Easter eggs and seasonal industrial action by flight planners are likely to bring travel misery to thousands of holidaymakers.

Travellers were advised yesterday not to wrap even Easter eggs if they want to avoid long delays at airport security, as record numbers of holidaymakers take to the skies.

The warning was given by Mr Alan Proctor, managing director of Heathrow airport, as the airport prepared to handle at least 110,000 passengers each day of Easter week.

"Security is tighter than ever and Heathrow has invested millions in more security manpower and equipment to speed passengers' progress from check-in to the aircraft," he said.

"But at peak times it may take longer. This is why we are appealing for passengers' help. Don't wrap Easter gifts, even Easter eggs are screened."

PRICES

Cuts of 5p a gallon in cost of petrol

By Kevin Eason
Motoring Correspondent

PETROL prices started to fall by 5p per gallon yesterday in time for the Easter rush to the roads and could signal a move to even lower prices by the summer.

Both Shell and Finia announced that they were cutting pump prices in line with large falls in the cost of supplies from the main Rotterdam spot market.

Other oil companies are expected to follow suit to bring average prices below the £2-a-gallon mark for four star petrol. New prices are expected to average 159.6p per gallon (43.9p per litre) for four star, 186p (46.9p per litre) for unleaded and 194p (47.7p per litre) for super unleaded.

Tesco, with 1,400 petrol stations, said it would reflect any price falls immediately at local forecourts. A full station would be made next week.

Mr Roger Colomb, Tesco managing director, said: "It will be difficult to make a decision over Easter although our stations will be charging prices competitive with those around them. That will mean lower prices. We have said that we charge pump prices which reflect our wholesale costs and that is what is happening at the moment."

Shell said it would take until Tuesday to have all forecourts alerted although many forecourts would already be cutting prices.

Pump prices rose by about 16p a gallon (3.5p per litre) after the 9p duty increase in the March Budget and extra increases to cover rises in crude oil costs.

Rotterdam prices, however, have dropped \$16 a ton — the equivalent of 3p a gallon — and are expected to drop further with high stocks reported around the world.

Oil analysts do not expect a collapse in oil prices because of high demand and cutbacks in production. There could, however, be a sustained period of weakness in crude prices, allowing oil companies leeway to cut petrol prices further over the next few months.

Shell added: "There are no clear indications of the long-term position yet but we will want to move sensibly over the next few weeks."

The sudden fall in petrol prices comes two weeks after Shell first reacted to a surge in the cost of crude oil in Rotterdam, forcing other oil companies to follow the lead through the sensitive £2 a gallon barrier.

Flights to Spain and Portugal are likely to be delayed by up to an hour because of restrictions imposed by Spanish air traffic controllers as a safety precaution.

Meanwhile, the Civil Aviation Authority gave a warning that in France flight planning staff were embarking on industrial action from 4am today which could hamper ground movements of aircraft at French airports.

Some flights from the UK were held up by technical problems, the worst being a British Airways flight from Gatwick to Barcelona, due to take off last night after a 12-hour delay.

Jet-setters, when they manage to get away, are likely to be the only holidaymakers to find the sun, however, as the London Weather Centre predicted a gloomy weekend at home with falling temperatures.

Showers were forecast for almost everywhere by today, some heavy, with temperatures falling to a maximum of 14°C in the South-east and 8°C or 9°C in north Scotland.

Tomorrow is expected to be drier for a time with temperatures close to average before the return of the rain. Showers are predicted for almost everywhere on Monday and Tuesday with what the weather forecasters described as "a fairly cool picture".

Despite the gloomy forecast, seaside resorts, zoos, theme parks and seasonal events at home are expected to be as popular as ever with traffic causing long queues.

As the build-up on the roads began shortly after lunch yesterday, the AA said, however, that most roadworks had been lifted for the holiday period and as many lanes as possible were open.

Motorists were queuing at ports for ferry sailings; Sealink reported a 25 per cent increase in business over last year.

The company's Irish Sea and Newhaven-Dieppe services were virtually full but there was space on the Dover-Calais, Folkestone-Boulogne and Harwich-Hook of Holland routes, although would-be passengers were advised to check before setting off.

P&O European Ferries said that because of heavy bookings no day trips are advised today or on Monday. Passengers were also warned of possible delays at Calais because of a damaged berth.

With rail travel also expected to be at a record level British Rail is repeating its boarding card scheme, introduced at Christmas, on 135 of the busiest InterCity services from London.

No one without a boarding pass will be able to board trains, thus spreading peak demand and ensuring seats for all.

Some rail passengers could face travel problems, however.

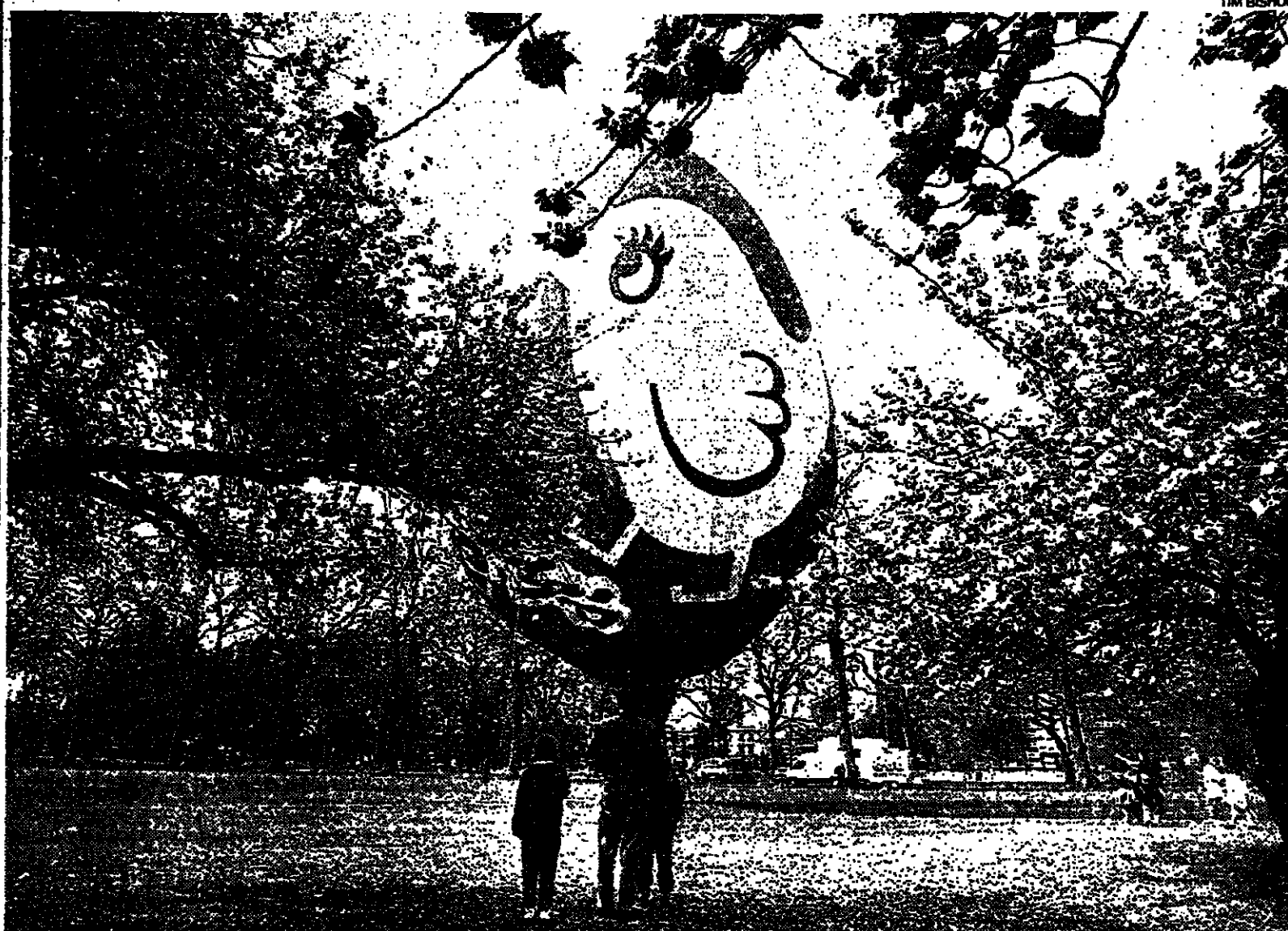
There are engineering works in Birmingham while London's Liverpool Street will be closed from early today until 5.30am on Tuesday for large-scale track replacement as part of the station's £1.1 billion redevelopment plan.

Trains to the station will terminate at Stratford and Seven Sisters.

Noting the early appearance of frogs in his garden pond, rocks building nests high in the trees and spiders spinning long strands to their webs, Bill Foggett, the celebrated amateur weather forecaster, yesterday predicted a "pretty good" summer.

Easter events, pages 19-20

Helping hands for launch of 80ft flying egg



An 80 ft balloon replica of a Cadbury Creme Egg — filled not with white and yellow fondant but with hot air — being launched yesterday in Battersea Park, London. This Easter, Cadbury has distributed almost 89,000 of the eggs to children in care through five children's charities

MAUNDY MONEY

Touts try to cash in on Royal gift

By Nicholas Watt

THE tight security at yesterday's Maundy Thursday service at St Nicholas's Cathedral, Newcastle upon Tyne, protected not only the Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh but also shielded the recipients of the Royal Maundy Money from the touts who try each year to buy the coins.

The 128 people who received Maundy Money were advised about touts beforehand and afterwards were escorted by police to a reception. However, a dealer with Intercoin in Newcastle said he knew

of someone who had already bought two sets. Collectors will pay £70 for a set of contemporary coins and up to £500 for a set from William and Mary's reign.

A gold set of Maundy Money from 1953, the first year the present Queen's head appeared on the coins, fetched £5,200 at auction in 1985. A standard set from that year sold for £187 in 1988.

However, Mr Mark Rasmussen, of the coin specialists Spink and Son, said the trade was a minute part of the coin business. "Most people keep their coins

in the family and there is usually a 15 to 20 year gap between receipt and sale."

Although the monarch has distributed coins on Maundy Thursday since 1213 it is difficult to identify Maundy Money before the 18th century because money in normal circulation was used then.

The number of recipients and the amount of money distributed is governed by the age of the monarch. The Queen is 64 and so yesterday 64 men and 64 women received 64p of silver coins in red and white pouches.

FRIDAY 13th

Just time to sneak in a virus or two

By David Young

COMPUTER users could return from this Bank holiday weekend to find that a series of time bombs, logic bombs, Trojan horses, core wars or even worms lie in wait for them, triggered last night as the calendar turned to Friday the 13th.

The last time Friday fell on the 13th computer viruses struck the Royal National Institute for the Blind and the computer at Mid-Glamorgan Council where they threatened thousands of financial files before being wiped out.

However, there are fears that the result of Friday the 13th falling on a Bank holiday could mean that more bugs, punched into computer programmes by mischievous enthusiasts or embittered past employees, could turn up and damage sensitive and vital information, and be given a free weekend to breed.

The phenomenon, first noticed in the United States, has spread around the world, particularly when enthusiasts make copies of software packages. Software manufacturers often protect their copyright by inserting a virus or bug into their programme which is activated only when the programme is illegally copied several times.

Mr Bill McCool, of the National Computing Centre, said: "The more indiscriminately the more often a programme is put in the more chance there is of catching a virus from it."

The viruses can cause displayed data to behave unpredictably. Stored information can be unexpectedly modified or destroyed, and, more seriously, some systems which operate safety equipment could be sabotaged. The time-bomb is a piece of illicit software that is activated by the computer clock to initiate a fraud, disruption or some other pre-planned mischief. The logic-bomb is similar but is activated by a series of events.

The Trojan horse is a coding illicitly entered into an apparently normal programme but which is activated at random. Viruses are illegal codes which can reproduce and spread from one part of a computer to another, and which can change to give different problems for the computer operator. The National Computing Centre has found that some viruses are little more than a nuisance, but that others could threaten a company's survival or the reliability of military systems.

Worms are related to Trojan horses and were developed 10 years ago. Friendly worms can perform useful tasks within a programme but others can copy themselves on to other systems and can help Trojan horses to sabotage other programmes. Core wars are mischievous programmes which can attack each other.

The answer to the problem, as some computer systems managers in the City of London who handle programmes which transfer millions of pounds a minute have found, is quite simple. Just remove the 13th from the calendar and tell the computer that the day after the 12th is the first of two 14ths.

THE SPOTS TO AVOID

Motorway roadworks suspended

By Michael Dwyer
Transport Correspondent

ROADWORKS on most of the national motorway network have been suspended for the Easter period in an attempt to ease holiday traffic congestion, AA Roadwatch announced yesterday.

In London and the South-east, however, motorists are warned to expect traffic blackspots at the Dartford tunnel, the A33 Winchester bypass, the M1 northbound, the M4 westbound, the Rayleigh Weir roundabout on the A127, and the M25 London orbital.

Windsor Safari Park, Thorpe Park, Surrey, and the Chessington World of Adventure are likely to be popular weekend venues. The Classic Car Show, Olympia; the International Music Festival, Wembley; the Easter Parade, Battersea Park; and the Nelson Mandela concert, Wembley, are expected to cause severe congestion.

In the Midlands and East Anglia, road works will continue on the A46 from Thorpe on the Hill to the Lincoln bypass, the A435 and A4104 in Hereford and Worcester, the A4540 on the Birmingham middle ring road and the A429 at Wellesbourne in Warwickshire.

The Midlands Festival of Transport, Shropshire, racing at Towcester, Southwell, Hereford, Uttoxeter, Nottingham, Market Rasen, and Warwick, along with the World Superbike Championships at Donington Park, are likely to cause localized congestion.

In the West Country, roadworks will remain in progress on the A4 in Wiltshire, while the A36 from Salisbury to Warminster, and the A419 from Swindon to Cirencester are expected to be very busy.

The West of England International Boat Show, Bristol, is also likely to cause severe congestion. The A40 and the

A429 to Oxfordshire, along with key routes to the Cotswolds and the Forest of Dean, are also expected to be popular holiday destinations.

Construction work on the Icknesham to South Westerton bypass is likely to cause traffic jams and the A4, A46, and A370 in Avon are expected to attract high volumes of traffic throughout the holiday weekend.

Heavy traffic is also expected in Wales, particularly on the A55 between St Asaph and Holywell, the A5 between Llangollen and Corwen, the A466 on the Wye Valley Bridge in Monmouth and the A4050 between Culverhouse

and Barry Island.

Temporary 24-hour traffic lights will be in operation at road works on the A468, the A472, the A473, the A44, the A478, the A470, the A40, the A5, and the A493, where delays are likely.

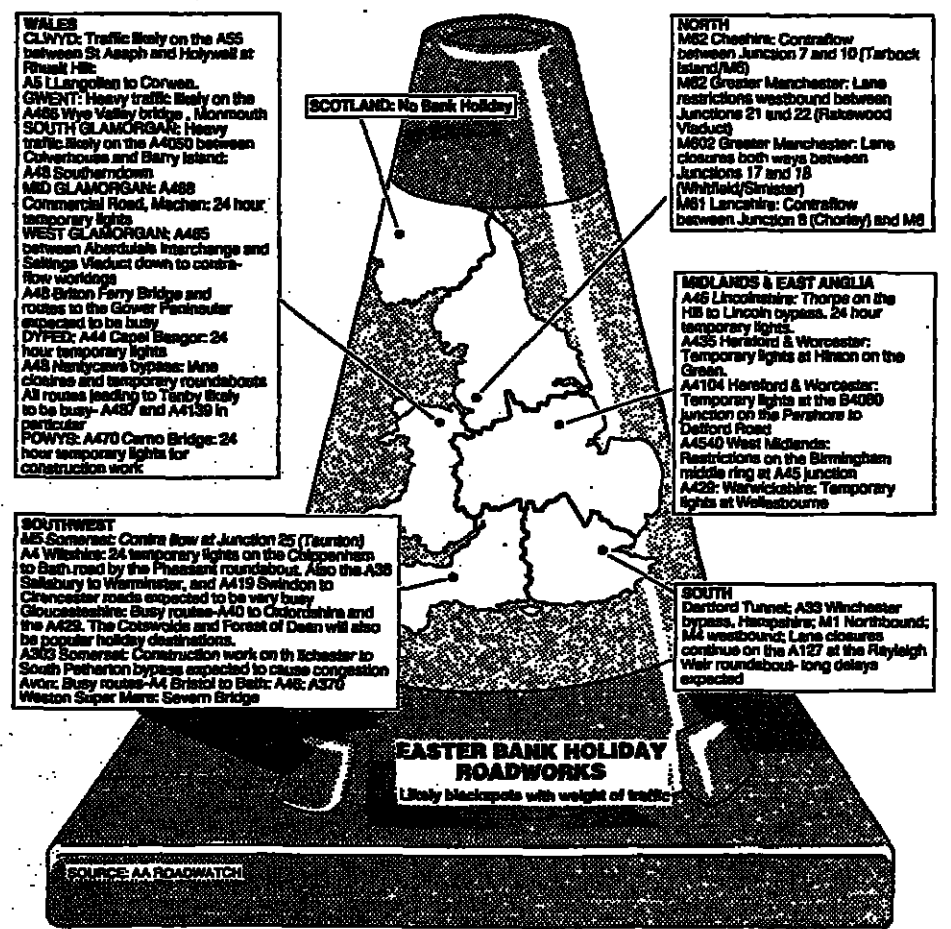
In the North, motorists can expect contrailings on the M62 in Cheshire, lane restrictions in both directions on the M62 and the M602 around Greater Manchester and contrailings on the M61 in Lancashire.

Racing at Carlisle and Wetherby, the Manchester Motorshow, Stockport Circus, the Newcastle road race, a poll tax demonstration in Darlington,

Stagness Scooter Rally and the Embassy World Snooker Championships in Sheffield are also likely to cause congestion on local roads.

The AA reported an early start to the rush hour last night as holiday makers attempted to beat the long traffic queues leaving London and other urban areas.

Motorists were urged to expect traffic jams, to be prepared for extended periods of confinement in their vehicles and to make sure vehicles have enough water "to prevent unnecessary breakdowns" adding to anticipated delays.



RABBIT BOUNTY

Islanders put price on growing menace

By John Young

EASTER bunnies or not, this will not be a happy weekend for rabbits, at any rate if they live in the Shetland Islands.

The islands' council is considering proposals to offer a bounty of 25p for every rabbit tail produced by hunters. Under the scheme "counters" would be appointed for each district, empowered to give out vouchers to be exchanged for cash.

For obscure ecological reasons rabbits abound in the treeless, windy open spaces of the Shetlands, although they have not enjoyed an easy run.

They were, for instance, the first official air raid casualties of World War Two, when the Germans attempted to bomb the seaplane base at Sullom Voe and missed. The bombs did not in fact kill any rabbits

either. But the authorities, sensing a propaganda coup, shot a number of rabbits which they placed in bomb craters and photographed as evidence of Jerry heartlessness — or poor bomb aiming.

The incident is said to have inspired the hit song *Run Rabbit Run*.

The heroic status of the Shetland rabbits was short-lived.

A succession of mild winters has allowed the rabbits to increase so that they are now a serious menace to the crofters' livelihood.

Ferrets brought in to cull the rabbits have proved more interested in attacking livestock and attempts to sell the carcasses for southern dinner tables foundered on the animals' stringiness.

MOORS ON FIRE

Walkers warned as grouse land blazes

By Ronald Faux

A WALL of fire, driven by the wind faster than a man can run, has destroyed nearly six square miles of grouse moor at Coverdale, near Leyburn, North Yorkshire.

More than 60 firemen yesterday directed millions of gallons of water to prevent the blaze spreading to forestry on the edge of Wensleydale.

It was the third day that fire had spread across under-wood moorland, reducing to ash more than 600 acres of carefully tended heather.

Grouse on the moor, owned by Lord Downshire, were driven from their nests. Land agents said that shooting in August would be badly affected.

Curlow and other ground-nesting birds also took off ahead of the flames.

Mr John Melanaphy, divisional fire commander with the North Yorkshire fire service, said that the cause of the blaze was under investigation, but the moors around the Yorkshire Dales were all in a dangerous condition after a long spell of dry weather.

He said: "I would ask anyone going out on to the moors over Easter to take enormous care, especially if the weather is fine. Large areas are like a tinder box."

The fire, driven by a 20-knot wind, created a seven-mile pall of smoke.

EASTER RESCUE ATTEMPT

Water music fails to lure porpoise back to the open sea

By David Sapped

DOCKY the porpoise is alive, well and ignoring the blandishments of even a flute-playing scuba diver in his determination to stay put in his unlikely new home inside the lock gates of King George's Dock, Hull.

North Sea ferries may plough in and out of the port and drivers have attempted all manner of musical and other plays to entice him back to the open sea. Docky has, however, refused to budge.

Dr Horace Dobbs, director of International Dolphin Watch, and Mr Ray Gravenor, director of British Divers Marine Life Rescue, visited the 5.8 porpoise again yesterday and decided that an appeal to his stomach might be the

only way to get him out of the harbour and through the twin set of dock gates. Over the Easter break, they hope divers will start to build up "a relationship" with the porpoise so he will eventually take food and can be lured into the North Sea.

Docky, though, might have other ideas. He is thought to have been swept in on a storm several weeks ago, having been separated from a school of porpoises now splashing contentedly in Bridlington Bay.

"He seems quite happy and is as lively as an aquatic ferret," Dr Dobbs said. "The environment in the dock is obviously not as hostile as we thought and he has adapted to it quite remarkably."

"There are eels and flat fish in

there and, rather astutely, he follows the ferries as far as the dock gates, feeding in the backwash when the massive props stir up the bottom and disturb the fish. Although it is not natural for him to be in there, he could probably survive for quite a long time. But not indefinitely."

Because of this, about 50 divers in inflatable, among them volunteers from around the country answering an appeal by Mr Gravenor, made the first determined effort to budge him earlier this week.

First in the water, with his dry suit and flippers, was Mr Owen Davies, a marine biologist who has built up a rapport while working with other cetaceans by playing his

music to them. On this occasion, alas, it was not to be. "Unfortunately, the porpoise must be tone deaf," Dr Dobbs said. "He took no notice at all." Next, the boats hung led ropes to the bottom to form a loose screen around Docky and gently drove him towards the sea, the state of the spring high tide and the co-operation of the Hull harbour authorities allowing both lock gates to be opened.

"On the first occasion we got him within 10 yards of the gates but then he bolted back inside. We kept trying but eventually gave up."

Because Docky seemed to be attracted to the noise of engines, tactic number three was to form the boats into a flotilla. Slowly they drove Docky seawards but, again,

he fled back to the dock when success seemed in sight.

Yesterday, Dr Dobbs and Mr Gravenor were negotiating with the captain of a commercial dive boat undergoing maintenance in the dock. "We hope that the divers will be able to get into the water every day and build up a relationship with the porpoise."

"If we can get him to the stage where he will take food — and normally they don't take to dead fish — then it will be possible eventually to lure him back to the sea with food," Dr Dobbs said.

"It will be a long process, though. At least, it seems his plight is not desperate at the moment."

"As a last resort, we could try netting him, but that would be

traumatic and, given the way he whips about, not at all easy."

A 70 million-year-old "Easter egg" goes on display this weekend at a "Dinosaurs Alive" exhibition at the City Art Centre in Edinburgh.

The egg, which is insured for £50,000, belongs to the Hypselosaurus species of dinosaur, which was 12 ft tall and 50 ft long.

The egg, which is one of the few existing specimens to retain its original shape, was uncovered at Aix-en-Provence in southern France in the 1930s.

It is being loaned by the Sandhills Swilken Corporation of St Andrews, which bought it from a paleontological specialist collector in Tucson, Arizona.

Successful drugs team wants more cash and less interference

By Lin Jenkins

BEHIND a scruffy doorway strewn with discarded cigarette ends in a busy Brighton shopping street lies the town's frontline in the battle against drug abuse.

The tiny sticker identifying it as the office of DAIS, the Drug Advice and Information Service, is barely noticeable. But up to 500 people come in each year for help.

For many the doorway leads to a network of agencies working closely together and monitored by a co-ordinating system unique in Britain; and it is the high level of co-ordination between counselling, the drug dependency unit, half-way houses, probation service, police, social services, schools and colleges that makes

those offering services sceptical of the Home Office initiative announced during the ministerial drugs conference this week to fund a "drug prevention team" in the town.

Its role will be to monitor the effectiveness of facilities and projects and to develop new ideas. Many fear, however, that it will duplicate a role already undertaken by the East Sussex Drugs Advisory Council.

Mrs Jane Brown, outreach worker at Level House, a half-way house for those off drugs, sums up the feeling of many. "There is a danger of developing an industry of monitoring, whereas what we really need is more help and funding at ground level."

With seven places at Level

House for a community with 200 notified drug addicts and a total probably nearer 1,000, the priority should surely be to increase the facilities, she says.

Brighton is well-served in its fight against drug abuse by its own drug dependency unit under Dr Anthony Farrington (consultant psychiatrist in charge of drug dependency services for Brighton Health Authority), DAIS, Level House, a special unit for drug-taking families and a host of counselling services and voluntary support groups.

All are co-ordinated by the drugs advisory council set up by a forward-thinking county council which acknowledged that the drug problem did not fit neatly into the traditional pattern of council ser-

vices. With Brighton fourth in the national league table of heroin abuse, the county council opted to pool the "intelligence, efforts and resources" of all the bodies concerned.

"The advisory council has been immensely successful," Mrs Pauline Sinks, the drugs project manager, said. "We have a properly integrated and co-ordinated policy. We have the same innovative approach to education."

"There are three people operating at primary secondary and further education levels informing children about drug dependency and drug abuse. And over 500 people from solicitors, GPs, magistrates and midwives to police officers and social workers have passed through our courses on

drug abuse. So we now have many people competent to deal with the problem in all fields."

With such an effective net operating the Home Office team of four is likely to find its roles mapped out for it when it arrives in Brighton.

Those working directly with drug abusers say, however, the need is not for greater co-ordination but for a specialist centre to deal with amphetamines, counselling services tailored to those addicted to tranquillisers and more half-way houses to give longer-term help to those who have given up the habit.

Mrs Jane McLoughlin, a councillor with DAIS, said: "It is the hard drugs that make the headlines but there is a lot more that

people never acknowledge such as women on tranquillisers. We need more help in dealing with the associated problems such as poor housing if we are really to be successful in beating drug dependency."

Mrs Brown would like some form of sheltered housing. Having just found a home for Barry, a former addict who had left Level House, she admits that often she can only place similar people in bed and breakfast accommodation where other residents are using drugs.

"It's terrific when you have a success like Barry, but often we cannot give as much help as we would want to. There needs to be a gentler way of getting people rehabilitated and into the commu-

nity," she said. Most of those in Brighton who work in the field belong to various liaison groups or are on management committees of different projects.

"We all keep in touch naturally, not just through the East Sussex Drugs Advisory Council," Mrs Brown said. "Hopefully, we can impress the Home Office team and they will be sympathetic to providing more funding where it really matters."

East Sussex is producing a data base on drug addiction, only the second in the country. It will give a more accurate picture of the scale of the problem and form the basis of appeals to the Home Office team for more cash rather than what some view as bureaucratic interference.

Teaching standards hit by lack of staff

By David Tytler, Education Editor

SEVERE staffing problems are preventing many primary schools from properly teaching mathematics, English and science lessons as legally required under the National Curriculum, according to the school inspectors.

In a report published yesterday, they say, however, that the lessons, which were compulsory from September 1989, have improved considerably since their report last autumn which found that many schools were falling behind, particularly in science.

Even so, the report says: "Some schools were experiencing severe staffing difficulties which were hindering the successful implementation of the National Curriculum."

The improvements seen in 100 of the 500 schools originally inspected include more long-term planning; better topic work to ensure that it covered specific subjects; more detailed record-keeping; better use of attainment targets in planning lessons; and

more teachers trained to teach specific subjects.

About two-thirds of lessons in the core subjects, mathematics, English and science, were satisfactory or better, with about a third of all lessons achieving good standards.

The inspectors say, however, that some difficulties still remain. Science lacks resources, although this was affecting only "a few" lessons; most schools were failing to assess pupils' progress; and staff in small schools were facing difficulties in meeting the legal requirements.

School governors who have been given more power in running schools under the Local Management of School legislation, which hands the day-to-day operation of schools to heads and their governors, were also criticized.

The report says: "Many headteachers reported that governing bodies were somewhat uncertain about their role in curriculum matters." Governors are beginning to provide more essential information for parents but annual meetings are poorly attended.

In English, lessons failed where teachers set "undemanding tasks". The best lessons were well-organized, often emphasizing spoken language and encouraging children to take part in debate.

In mathematics, too little use was made of calculators and in the third of classes with less than satisfactory standards, lessons lacked a clear purpose and were not related to what children would be expected to learn to achieve the legally required standards.

In science, just over half the lessons were judged to be satisfactory or better and there was often "insufficient depth or structure" to lessons to ensure that the children actually learned anything.

British schools could soon become "European colleges" with foreign students, under proposals discussed yesterday. Kent County Council hopes that the initiative, if it gets the go-ahead, will help children to keep up with EC rivals.

Teachers' leaders welcomed the move, thought to be the first of its kind, but said that it would need more thought.

Under the plan, 25 schools would be designated "European schools" offering international qualifications as well as A levels. Foreign students would also be involved but no further details have been decided.

The aim is to broaden the curriculum in preparation for the single European market.

Demotion for pilot after near-miss

By Harvey Elliott, Air Correspondent

THE Civil Aviation Authority formally "endorsed" the licences yesterday of the British Airways crew whose Boeing 747 jumbo jet almost hit a hotel while trying to land at Heathrow airport.

The ruling, under which the captain is demoted to co-pilot and the first officer and flight engineer are not allowed to fly "except under supervision, follows a British Airways investigation which criticized the crew for breaking company rules.

Captain Glenn Stewart, the aircraft captain, resigned and his two fellow crew members were ordered by BA to lose two years seniority.

It is highly unusual for the CAA to make public actions it takes against pilots whose air transport pilots' licences are varied after investigations. On this occasion, however, it was felt that the incident was so serious that examples had to be made of the crew.

The CAA said yesterday that the aircraft they were flying "departed from the extended runway centre-line

and carried out a low go-around while operating the missed approach procedure".

The aircraft, which was landing with 255 passengers in low cloud and fog last November, was not properly established on the airport's navigational landing beacon and instead roared down the parallel Bath Road, narrowly missing the Penta Hotel.

"The incident was caused by the captain's failure to recognize that the aircraft had not stabilized on the localizer beam of the instrument landing system and to initiate a go-around when he should have done, in accordance with BA's operating procedures," the CAA's report says.

The CAA added: "Contributory factors were the failure of the first officer and flight engineer adequately to monitor the flight path."

Loss-making airlines in the West Indies may merge to form one powerful Caribbean carrier to prevent big international "predators" such as British Airways, from swallowing them up.



Water music: Rupert Bond struggles with his double bass on the long trip along Festival Pier from the Thames to dry land. Mr Bond and other members of the Docklands Sinfonietta had travelled by riverbus from east London for a rehearsal at the Queen Elizabeth Hall. The young orchestra makes its first appearance there on Tuesday

UK cancer survival 'lower than in US'

By Thomson Prentice Science Correspondent

CANCER patients have a significantly lower chance of survival in Britain than in the United States, a leading specialist said yesterday.

Professor Karol Sikora, of Hammersmith Hospital, west London, cited government research findings to support a claim he made last month that several thousand cancer sufferers a year probably die unnecessarily in Britain because treatment services are badly organized.

His initial comments were criticized by some cancer specialists as unfounded and alarmist. Professor Sikora pointed yesterday, however, to a recent Office of Population Censuses and Surveys (OPCS) study which found that survival rates in the United States were "considerably better than in England and Wales".

He also referred to a study by the Royal College of Radiologists of radiotherapy services at 56 British cancer centres. These showed "enormous and worrying variations" in the time consultants could spare to see patients, he said.

According to the OPCS study, the proportion of men surviving five years after being diagnosed with prostate cancer was 36 per cent in England and Wales, and 65 per cent in the United States.

While only seven per cent of long cancer sufferers here survived for five years, the rates were between 10 per cent and 15 per cent in the US. For cervical cancer, which kills about 2,000 women a year in Britain, the survival rate was 58 per cent in England and Wales and 66 in the US.

The OPCS study said: "The considerably better survival rates of American cancer patients could be partly ascribed to earlier diagnosis and better treatment of these patients."

The Department of Health said that the OPCS cancer survival figures in Britain and the US could reflect differences in the definition of cancer in the two countries.

Ex-patients barred from new home

By Jill Sherman, Social Services Correspondent

A HIGH Court ruling forbidding a health authority to use two new houses for eight former psychiatric patients could leave the community care programme in tatters, it was claimed yesterday.

The property developers, C & G Homes, had claimed that such use of the houses on a "executive" estate in Bath would be in breach of covenants requiring them to be used as private homes.

Ruling in their favour, Mr Justice Fennell said the houses were not being used for private housing. The residents were not related and they were very different from "an ordinary family unit" occupying a private dwelling house, he said.

Mr Andrew Wall, Bath district general manager, said the authority was seeking legal advice, "but if this judgement is allowed to stand the Government's care in the commu-

nity programme is in tatters. The policy would be meaningless if this case can be bought anywhere."

His view was echoed by the National Association of Health Authorities which said the decision could make it difficult for managers to close institutions and try to integrate former "patients" into normal housing.

Six of the patients, who have been discharged from Mendip Hospital, Wells, which is being closed down, moved into the houses at Charlcombe Park, Weston, two weeks ago.

The developer had claimed it suffered financially, and had had to drop the price of one house by £3,000 and make other concessions to another prospective buyer.

C and G Homes said it had not objected to the former patients being on the site, but to the health authority

breaching the covenant stating the houses could not be used for business purposes. The covenants on the estate were similar to those for estates throughout the country.

"We felt obliged to protect the interests of other residents on the estate," a spokeswoman said.

The authority had originally said the site would be used for locum doctors and their families. "If we had known they were going to change their mind, we would never have sold them the property in the first place," she said.

The judge ruled however that the six residents in the two four-bedroom houses which cost £160,000 and £200,000 would not have to move out immediately pending possible appeal. Mr Kenneth Clarke, the Secretary of State for Health, is considering the judgement.

Mr Wall objected to the

judge's comment that three former patients did not constitute a family unit, even though they lived independently with no resident staff. "What is an ordinary family unit, a couple with 2.4 children? Does this mean that unless you are a part of an average family someone could take out an injunction against you living next door?"

Mr Philip Hunt, director of the National Association of Health Authorities, said: "The whole basis of community care is that when mentally ill people are discharged they should be able to lead a normal family life. This decision puts that in jeopardy."

Mr Hunt called for legislation "to make it clear that having a house in which there might be two or three people who have been discharged from hospital constitutes a family house and not an institution".

Wapping inquiry 'naïve' says officer

The Police Complaints Authority and Northampton police refused to comment yesterday on an attack by a senior Scotland Yard officer against the provincial force's investigation into Scotland Yard's handling of a riot outside the News International plant in Wapping, east London, three years ago (Stewart Tiedler writes).

Writing in *Police Review*, Superintendent Leslie Home, who was one of two officers in the Yard's control room at Wapping, accuses the investigation, supervised by the PCA, as "at best naïve and at worst inept and incomplete".

Mr Home's article is the latest round in a long-running battle over the Yard's operation at Wapping and attempts to prosecute a number of London officers.

Priest attacked pregnant woman

A ROMAN Catholic priest who attacked a pregnant woman during an anti-abortion protest received a suspended jail sentence yesterday.

Mrs Tracy Allsopp, manager of an abortion clinic, was punched to the ground as she tried to "rescue" a patient from the crowd. Mrs Allsopp, aged 27, who had just returned to work after a suspected miscarriage, told the demonstrators she was carrying a

baby just before the attack.

A jury at Birmingham Crown Court found the protest organizer, Father James Morrow, aged 55, guilty of assault occasioning actual bodily harm. He was given a three-month jail sentence, suspended for two years.

Two other protesters, Barry Norman, aged 42, from Vancouver, Canada, and Tamsin Geach, aged 27, of Cambridge, were also given three month suspended jail sentences. The three were each ordered to pay £250 costs and £100 compensation to Mrs Allsopp.

The jury was told that Father Morrow, from Braemar, Aberdeenshire, marshalled a 50-strong group of anti-abortion demonstrators who laid siege to the Calthorpe Nursing Home in Edgbaston, Birmingham, last November.

Father Morrow was bound over to keep the peace twice last year after demonstrations. He also admitted being convicted of conspiring to contravene a public order Act in January, and causing alarm or distress in February.

Twist of fate led to baby's storm death

A BABY killed in her father's arms by falling masonry was the victim of "a cruel twist of fate", an inquest was told yesterday.

Zoe McLaren, aged 11 months, died when a chimney collapsed on her as her father, Roland McLaren, an Army sergeant, tried to carry her to safety from his weather-damaged house at Azimghur barracks, Colerne, Wiltshire, during a storm in January.

Sergeant McLaren fled with Zoe after a wall began swaying under a battering from 100mph winds, and bricks started crashing down the chimney.

Mr John Elgar, the Wiltshire coroner, recording a verdict of accidental death on the baby, who died of brain injuries, said: "This was a very tragic death which was caused by a twist of fate. Zoe died as her father tried to take her away from the very danger that killed her."

A structural survey of the house last October had found that no work needed to be carried out on the chimney

stack, but an independent survey had shown that the house was extremely exposed to the elements, the inquest, at Devizes, Wiltshire, was told.

Mr Geoffrey Stone, a consultant engineer, said that under present building regulations, the chimney would not have been built so high.

A London teacher was crushed to death during January's gales by a 7 ft wall that supported fencing and had been erected without planning consent, an inquest at Southwark was told yesterday.

Miss Caroline Chapman, aged 28, a teacher at St Saviour's Primary School, Herne Hill, died on January 25 at Lewisham Hospital after receiving multiple injuries.

Sir Montague Levine, the coroner, recorded a verdict of accidental death on Glasgow-born Miss Chapman, of Forest Hill, who was struck while waiting for a bus at Brockley Road, Brockley.

Mr Robert Adams, a surveyor with Lewisham council, said: "The fencing would have acted like a sail."

Antiques haul

Antiques worth £100,000 were stolen yesterday from an unoccupied farmhouse at Woodside Farm, Sparkford, Somerset. Police said items were carefully selected.

A 17th-century oil painting by Guercino of John the Baptist, which was stolen from Christ Church, Oxford, in 1988, has been found in a rubbish skip outside Oxford police station.

Drugs charge

Omar Moreno-Rodriguez, a Colombian aged 29, and Patricia Mumford, 34, of Palmers Green, north London, were remanded in custody for a week by Tottenham magistrates charged with conspiracy to supply cocaine after 25 kilos of the drug were found.

M-way pile-up

A dog which jumped from a car after the windscreen was smashed on the M27 at Locks Heath, Hampshire, caused a pile-up involving 10 cars. The dog was killed by a motorcyclist who received back and arm injuries.

Jobs scheme

The EC is being asked for a grant of £225 million to fund a project to create 20,000 jobs in the East Midlands through training schemes, restoration of derelict land and help to businesses.

Weapon remand

Mark Baker, a storekeeper, was remanded on bail until May 22 by Trowbridge magistrates charged with stealing a rocket launcher and a smoke grenade from the School of Infantry in Warminster, Wiltshire.

Eel reprieve

The annual eel eating championship at Frampton on Severn, Gloucestershire, has been scrapped because the price of baby eels has risen to £30 a kilo.

Strong stuff from tabloids of Aphrodisias

By Philip Howard

THERE really are sermons in stone, if you know how to look for them. The Classical Association, meeting at the University of Kent in Canterbury yesterday, learned some lapidary history from old stones at Aphrodisias.

Until recently you could pass as a respectable Classical scholar without ever having heard of Aphrodisias. Not any more, you can't. The international excavations at the old capital of Caria in south west Turkey (Augustus's favourite holiday resort) are discovering forgotten history in the wealth of inscriptions in this secluded place, rich in exquisite marble.

Mrs Charlotte Roueché, from King's College London, one of the epigraphic archaeologists working there, brought the latest news from the

stones. It sounded strangely familiar. After the great inflation of the third century AD, the measures to control it reduced the power and wealth of local government. The old classical education faded away, and was replaced by a new, profit-oriented and pragmatic curriculum, to train young men for jobs in the imperial civil service.

You have to keep your eyes open and your wits about you when reading inscriptions. They tell you only what they want you to know. They take a very positive attitude to the news.

But if you read the stones carefully you can see the town adopting Hellenized culture and politics, and retaining its Middle Eastern mother goddess as Aphrodite. Then the Christians come along and delete the pagan name of Aphrodite from the inscriptions, although their town is

still named after her, and they still called themselves Aphrodisians.

Then we read of the town becoming a university and the brilliant Aphrodisian sculptures of local worthies and international sages being set up in the gymnasium to encourage the lads. As on Eton's playing fields, Latin and Greek were inculcated to a rounded Classical education to produce *mentes sanas in corporibus sanis*. Christianity had little impact on an educated man needed the old philosophical and rhetorical curriculum rather than the barbaric Greek of the gospels.

For one decade there are literary texts to support the numerous inscriptions and epigrams on stone. The spotlight illuminates the black past. There are two men called Asklepiodotos, one a pagan professor of

philosophy, the other a Christian city father. The bishop spikes a pagan's miraculous birth with the help of Isis, by putting it about in the tabloids that the baby had been secretly bought, not miraculously conceived.

Then in the sixth century, the curtain comes down. The flourishing cities disappear from Asia Minor. Civilization retreats into the grim laager of Constantinople. And all those fair, frail pagans, with their dynamic teaching and philosophy, vanish off the face of the stones in a single generation.

The news from Aphrodisias is a warning about how fragile are the defences of Western civilization against the dark ages. We have seen it happen in this century also.

EC message is that sanctions will stay until apartheid ends

Cape Town
EUROPEAN Community ministers visiting South Africa yesterday called on President de Klerk to continue with political reforms until apartheid is totally abolished.

A three-member European team, led by Mr Gerard Collins, the Irish Foreign Minister, met Mr de Klerk in Cape Town after talks in Johannesburg on Wednesday with black opposition leaders and the African National Congress (ANC).

Mr Collins was accompanied by Signora Susanna Agnelli, the Italian Deputy Foreign Minister, and M Thierry de Beance, the French Deputy Minister of International Cultural Co-operation. Mr Richard O'Brien, the Irish Foreign Ministry spokesman, said the ministers wanted to make an assessment of events in South Africa and report back to the 12 member states.

Their meeting with Mr de Klerk took place a month before he is to visit Europe for talks with government lead-

ers, including Mrs Thatcher. Sources close to the South African Government said yesterday that President de Klerk will also visit the United States in June.

It will be the first official visit to Washington by a South African head of government since the Afrikaner-based National Party assumed power 52 years ago and introduced apartheid.

President Bush invited Mr de Klerk to the White House in February after South Africa released Mr Nelson Mandela and legalized black opposition activity as part of a reform programme Mr de Klerk says will dismantle apartheid and create a non-racial democracy.

Mr Bush also invited Mr Mandela. No dates have been announced officially.

Mr de Klerk will try to persuade Western leaders that the course on which he has launched South Africa is irreversible and that the country deserves to be rewarded with the lifting of selective economic sanctions.

Mr Mandela, however, ar-

gues that substantive talks between the black opposition and the Government have yet to begin and that it would be premature to ease the pressure that the ANC says was largely responsible for forcing whites to change their ways.

The Government and the ANC have scheduled talks for May 2-4 to clear the way for power-sharing discussions. Some sources say that they believe more government concessions are pending.

Diplomatic sources said the EC group this week carried a message from the Community calling for continued political reforms away from apartheid's system of racial segregation and offering unspecified support.

The delegation would make it clear that, while apartheid remained morally unjustifiable, it was the shared responsibility of all South Africans to co-operate in getting rid of it, the sources said.

Mr Collins said in Johannesburg on Wednesday that EC nations welcomed Mr de Klerk's initiatives to dismantle apartheid. But he said Europe would continue to support punitive economic sanctions already in place until apartheid was dismantled.

Mr de Klerk began to abolish aspects of apartheid after his election as President in September. On February 11 he lifted a 30-year ban on the ANC and freed Mr Mandela from his 1964 life sentence for plotting to overthrow white rule.

The President has promised to negotiate with black leaders concerning political rights for the country's voteless majority, and last week he held preliminary talks with Mr Mandela. (AP, Reuters)

The Afrikaner vigilantes talk of a bloodbath

From Gavin Bell, Welkom

IN AN untidy office strewn with Afrikaner National Congress posters, trade union officials are planning a mass rally of black mineworkers to protest against intimidation and violence by white racists.

Less than a mile away, burly men in khaki military-style uniforms are preparing to confront the demonstration tomorrow week. Their leader gestures to a large revolver on his desk and says: "If they march, there's going to be a bloodbath. We'll shoot them, and if the police get in the way, we'll shoot them, too."

It is high noon in the Welkom (backwoods) of the province of the Orange Free State, where white vigilantes have usurped the authority of the "sheriff" and blacks stay off the streets after dark.

The Blanke Veiligheid (White Security) organization which emerged in this bastion of Afrikanerdom last month has grown into more than a neighbourhood watch group.

With 3,800 members in Welkom, and affiliates springing up throughout the province, it has become a powerful force implacably opposed to the ANC and black rule.

Its leaders talk of the possibility of a coup, and hint at a tactical alliance with

Zulus engaged in a mini-civil war with ANC supporters in Natal. Even allowing for boastful rhetoric, this is the nucleus of a revolution.

The group is a remarkably well organized and disciplined force of sober, determined men who distance themselves from the secretive extremists of the far right, seeing themselves as the conservative defenders of a society threatened by radical black hordes under the banner of the ANC.

Mr Hennie Muller, aged 43, a panel beater, formed the organization three days before a protest march by black miners on March 9. In confronting the demonstration, he and 66 of his followers were arrested and are to appear in court next month.

The next day Mr Mnikelo Ndamase was dragged from a shop in a white suburb and beaten, kicked and shot to death by a group of whites. Mr Tshokolo Mahase, his friend, said: "I can still see his eyes pleading for mercy as a big man in khaki held him by the scruff of the neck and the others moved in."

Mr Muller denies that his men were responsible, and it seems likely the killers were members of the paramilitary Afrikaner Resistance Movement, which makes a habit of randomly attacking blacks.

"We are not racists. We have no problem with conservative, law-abiding people. Our only concern is to protect our neighbourhoods from ANC radicals and criminals," Mr Muller said.

The vigilantes appeared in strength during a black consumer boycott of white-owned businesses last month, and made short work of black militants they perceived to be enforcing the protest action by intimidating shopkeepers. "We ran them out of town," Mr Muller said.

Since then the vigilantes have been patrolling white neighbourhoods after dark - armed with revolvers and wearing smart khaki uniforms bearing lion's head insignia.

Welkom is deceptively quiet. Pre-planned and built from 1948 onwards, after the discovery of the rich Free State Goldfields, on what had been a maize farm, it produces 21 per cent of the West's gold supply.

Close to tree-lined suburbs inhabited by 58,000 whites, an estimated 134,000 blacks live in Thabong township. Another 150,000 black mineworkers, recruited on contract in the tribal homelands, live in compounds on mine property. The lifting of the ban on the ANC and the release of Mr Nelson Mandela, its deputy president, has brought this volatile mixture to flashpoint - above and below ground.

After a series of racial incidents, and in defiance of regulations, white miners have begun wearing guns at the pit face, leading an alarmed mine executive privately to describe the tunnels beneath Welkom as a volcano waiting to erupt.

Mr David Nande, the vigilantes' political adviser, is also a local official of the extreme-right Conservative Party. "People in government departments have had Mandela forced down their throats, and now they've had enough," he said, adding: "We're not Rhodesians, we'll fight for our rights. Black majority rule will never happen. Listen to what I'm telling you, there will be a white backlash right through South Africa."

Settlers spark Jerusalem riot

From Richard Owen, Jerusalem

TEAR gas hung over the shrines and narrow alleyways on Good Friday's eve yesterday as several hundred Christian priests and Arab Christian residents clashed with Jewish settlers who tried to move into the Christian quarter of Old Jerusalem for the first time since Israel captured it in 1967. The clashes continued into the evening.

Some of the thousands of Western tourists and pilgrims now pouring into Jerusalem for Easter unexpectedly found themselves pinned behind cordons of paramilitary border police as 150 Jewish settlers battled with their Christian opponents near the Church of the Holy Sepulchre, the focus of Easter celebrations and one of the holiest sites in Christianity.

The Jewish settlers said they had legally bought property in the Christian quarter, but the violence dismayed Israeli officials, who make special efforts to ensure harmonious relations between Christians, Muslims and Jews during religious festivals.

The trouble began when more than 20 Jewish families arrived to move into buildings owned by the Greek Orthodox Church deep inside the Old City, which was annexed by Israel as part of east Jerusalem after the Six-day War.

Yesterday the Venerable Diodoros the First, the Greek Orthodox Patriarch of Jerusalem, emerged to lead Christian protests against the sudden prospect of a Jewish presence in the Christian quarter. Israeli border police intervened, and in the ensuing clashes the patriarch was knocked to the ground. He suffered from tear gas inhalation.

He later said he felt "indignation and condemnation", declaring: "This week is the most sacred week for Christians. The Jews have

desecrated our holy festival." Mr Teddy Kollek, the Mayor of Jerusalem, said the timing of the Jewish move lacked "wisdom and sensitivity", and called on the Israeli Government to intervene.

Many of the Christian Arab youths involved in the disturbances took refuge inside the cavernous Church of the Holy Sepulchre.

Roman Catholic and Armenian priests joined in yesterday's protests and condemned the police action, but police said the Arab youths involved had demonstrated "illegally".

The Jewish settlers, one of whom blithely played honky-tonk music on his newly installed piano inside the disputed premises while the riot raged outside, said they had bought the buildings, known as St John's Hospice, in good faith from their "Armenian owners" with the help of donations from Jews abroad.

The price is said to have been about £3 million, but the Greek Orthodox patriarchate said the Armenians in question were only tenants.

Mr David Ben-Ami, the settlers' spokesman, said they were only re-establishing a presence in an area from which Jews had been evicted by Arab rioting in British Mandate Palestine in the 1920s and 1930s. "Heaven forbid we should take anyone's property," he said. "We are here for religious reasons. It was all done legally."

Mr Ariel Sharon, the former general and right-wing politician, who bought a home in the adjoining Muslim quarter of the Old City three years ago, braved the tear gas to join the Jewish settlers in the Christian quarter, declaring that their presence "would enhance Jewish security".

The church protest, meanwhile, was supported by several leading figures in the Palestinian movement.

Collor wins first round but recession deepens

From Louise Byrne, Rio de Janeiro

IN THE first important victory for his new Government, President Collor de Mello of Brazil has won support for one of his most controversial new economic measures, which was announced the day he took office in March.

By a margin of 43 votes Congress has supported the freezing for 18 months of all the country's current and savings accounts above \$550.

The measure, which came into effect on March 15 but needed Congress's eventual support, overnight saw Brazil experience its most drastic reduction of money in circulation. The measure, designed to curb consumption and eventually bring down prices, was supported by a population that has been crippled by inflation of more than 80 per cent a month.

The challenge now facing the Collor Government is to halt a serious recession. Indus-

trial production fell by up to 24 per cent in March and in the big industrial centre of São Paulo more than 300,000 workers have been put on paid leave and at least 5,000 dismissed as a result of the new measures.

Many workers have also not received their salaries for March as companies claimed to have run out of money. The president of one leading workers' union has spoken of the risk of social chaos if the Government does nothing to encourage investment.

Meanwhile, the signs of recession have already crept into everyday life. Restaurants and shops are working under par, the national airlines are unusually offering special deals to attract back customers, and advertising is noticeably down in magazines and newspapers.

Figures also show that over 50 per cent of larger purchases

are now made with credit cards or on hire purchase. If the working classes are being hit by unemployment and the middle classes by a big change in their spending habits, a psychologist, Senhor Flavio Gikvate, believes the rich have been no less affected.

"Having their money frozen in bank accounts has been like losing a limb for many of the rich in a society where money is status," says Senhor Gikvate, who also believes that the businessman suffers when he has to lay off workers.

"Despite what one may think, bosses have a strong relationship with their workers, and to break that relationship is not easy for them," he said.

Women apparently take a more philosophical view about the loss of money than their husbands, who may react sexually with impotence or the need for a new conquest.

Death of Aids victim stirs US

From Charles Bremner, New York

THE death this week of a teenager who faced Aids with an almost saintly grace has prompted an outpouring of tributes from the famous and mighty and caused Americans to reflect on the stigma for those with the disease.

Some 1,500 mourners, including Mrs Barbara Bush, Elton John, and Michael Jackson, attended the nationally televised funeral in Indianapolis on Wednesday of Ryan White, aged 18.

A haemophiliac infected by the HIV virus after a blood transfusion, White took the public stage in 1985 when he fought a long battle to gain readmittance to his Indiana school.

He became a poignant symbol for the suffering inflicted by the disease and helped lead the campaign to wean the country from fear.

The Rev Ray Probasco said at the Presbyterian funeral in Indianapolis: "Ryan and his family always believed there would be a miracle. But that didn't happen. I believe God gave us that miracle in Ryan. He healed a wounded spirit in the world and made it whole." In an emotional moment Elton John, wearing a black sequined hat, sat at a piano with White's photograph on it and sang "Skyline Pigeon", a song written after befriending Ryan White.

Earlier hundreds of eminent mourners had filed past the open coffin in which White's body lay, dressed in his favourite jeans and sunglasses.

President Bush and former President Reagan have also paid tribute to White.

But Mr Robert Bray of the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force attacked Mr Reagan for failing to draw up anti-discrimination legislation.

Although opinion polls show greater public understanding of the disease than at any time since it was diagnosed, there is still much prejudice. In recent months demonstrators have taken to disrupting church services and public events in New York and other big cities to voice their anger over what they see as an inadequate social response to the epidemic.

White was in many ways not typical of the children who suffer from the disease. Most new cases now occur in babies infected by their mothers at birth. Three-quarters of the 2,000 diagnosed so far are black or Hispanic and almost all live in the biggest cities - a third of them in New York alone.

The publicity given to those figures are helping to reinforce the notion that Aids is a disease of the ghetto, say the campaigners.

The World Health Organization said yesterday that 2,637 new cases of Aids were reported in the US in March, bringing the total there to 124,282 cases, or 52 per cent of all reported cases in the world.

Some 60,000 have died in the United States so far.

Chinese threat to retaliate

From Catherine Sampson, Peking

A CHINESE spokeswoman yesterday warned that the British Government's tabling of the Nationality Act in Parliament last week may harm Sino-British relations.

The angry Chinese reaction came just after Mr Francis Maude, Foreign Office Minister responsible for Hong Kong, announced on Wednesday that there would be more passports on offer to Hong Kong residents than envisaged under the Nationality Act.

At a weekly news briefing, Miss Li Jinhua, the Foreign Ministry spokeswoman, said the Chinese Government had "time and again" made clear its opposition to Britain's unilateral decision to change the nationality of some of the Hong Kong citizens.

She said that, in disregard of China, Britain had "intransigently" submitted the British Nationality (Hong Kong) Act 1990 to Parliament.

The Chinese Government, she said, "cannot ignore such serious breach by the British side of its solemn commitment and the relevant agreements reached between China and Britain".

She warned that China might "take corresponding measures" against the nationality package. But diplomats said China's threats of sabotaging the nationality package - under which Britain would offer passports for up to 225,000 Hong Kong residents - have no legal basis.

While Peking insists that it is in charge of the nationality of Hong Kong residents even before 1997, the Joint Declaration on 1997 states that Hong Kong residents come under Chinese nationality law then, and not before.

Birendra rejects leadership offer

From Christopher Thomas, Kathmandu

KING Birendra has decided to reject an offer by Nepal's newly legalized political parties to become head of an interim government pending national elections.

The offer was made jointly by the Nepali Congress and the United Left Front, the two main political groups. It was accompanied by a demand that the King should immediately dissolve the Cabinet and wind up the entire panchayat system of partyless government.

Mr Lokendra Bahadur Chang, the Prime Minister, told *The Times* yesterday that the King did not want to be involved in the day-to-day running of the country.

"The political parties want the King to preside over the

Cabinet. The Government thinks His Majesty is right in being reluctant to do this, because that would mean he would have to oversee controversial things like preparations for elections."

The Congress and the left-wingers want the King to make his position clear on dissolving the Government by the time the Nepalese new year begins tomorrow. Otherwise, they say, demonstrations will be held.

Mr Chang, appointed a week ago, said it might be possible to dissolve the national panchayat in two or three months when vital legislation had been enacted that would enshrine the new multi-party system into law.

He argued that the system of

local panchayats, which govern at village, district and town level, should remain in place until after national elections.

The politicians, however, are proposing that local administrations should be left for the time being in the hands of civil servants, who would be responsible for ensuring that basic services continued.

Mr Chang questioned whether that would work. Local panchayats had many powers and there would be a vacuum if the system was completely dismantled.

Asked whether King Birendra was ready to give up almost all his powers and become a constitutional monarch, the Prime Minister said the King would accept what-

ever proposals were made by a constitutional amendment committee. That body would include members of the Congress and the left-wingers.

He confirmed that loyalist supporters of the panchayat system were forming a political party and would contest elections. "They have a lot of grassroots support," he said. He thought the panchayats would be more effective when they were brought under the control of party discipline.

Political parties say the dismissal of the present Cabinet must include the dismissal of Mr Chang. The Prime Minister said that, if the question of the well-being of the people or the nation arose, "then I would be willing to go to any extent".

Masur to conduct New York Philharmonic

From James Bone, New York

THE New York Philharmonic has named Kurt Masur, the East German conductor who helped lead the democratic uprising in his country, to replace Zubin Mehta as its music director.

Herr Masur, aged 62, the music director of the Gewandhaus Orchestra of Leipzig and currently principal guest conductor of the London Philharmonic, briefly considered running for the presidency of East Germany.

He now faces what may be an equally demanding task leading the notoriously difficult New York Philharmonic, which has come under fire recently for its uneven performances.

His appointment came as a surprise to many in the music world. Front-runners for the post, which Mr Mehta has held for the last 13 years, had included Sir Colin Davis, Charles Dutoit, Giuseppe Sinopoli and Leon-

ard Slatkin. The Italian conductor Claudio Abbado backed out after having reportedly been offered the post so that he could replace the late Herbert von Karajan as music director of the Berlin Philharmonic.

Mr Mehta, who is 53, announced in November, 1988, that he planned to retire to pursue a guest conducting career and continue his directorship of the Israel Philharmonic.

Herr Masur, who has a reputation as musical craftsman rather than a virtuoso, found his musical activities eclipsed last year by the stirrings of the democracy movement in East Germany. The day after Herr Erich Honecker, then the East German leader, issued his threat to the populace to "remember what happened in China", Herr Masur threw open the doors of the 200-year-old Gewandhaus for a pro-democracy meeting.

The entire orchestra, 180-strong, tore up their communist party

membership cards and wrote to Herr Honecker demanding talks on political reform.

The conductor, who is noted for his performances of German Romantic works, recently told *The Times*: "I was only carrying on those principles that I try to uphold when I conduct: Beethoven's hope in the Choral Symphony was exactly for that which was happening all over Europe."

Born in Brieg, Poland, when it was part of Germany, Herr Masur began his advanced musical studies as a cellist and pianist at the National Musical School in Breslau in 1942. Four years later he entered the Leipzig Conservatory to study piano, composition and conducting.

After taking up his first professional post as a rehearsal coach at the Halle National Theatre, he served as music director of regional opera companies in Erfurt and Leipzig, working his way up in the vanishing style of building a conducting career. In 1955 he was

named as conductor of the Dresden Philharmonic, but returned to opera in 1958 as general director of the Mecklenburg State Theatre of Schwerin.

He came to international attention in 1960 when he took up the music directorship of the Komische Oper in Berlin. He became chief conductor at the Dresden Philharmonic in 1967 and stayed until 1972, having meanwhile taken up the directorship of the Gewandhaus Orchestra in 1970.

He is married to Tomoko Sakurai, a concert soprano, and they have a son, Ken David Masur, aged 12. Herr Masur has four grown children by previous marriages.



Kurt Masur: Leading role in East German uprising



Elton John comforting Ryan White's mother, Jeanne, at the Indianapolis funeral service attended by Michael Jackson, below left, and Mrs Barbara Bush. White became a potent symbol for Aids sufferers



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Thatcher's future is key issue for US media in Bermuda

From Peter Stothard, US Editor, Washington

THE American media will be represented in Bermuda this weekend in unusual force. The top reporters and television directors will not be looking for dramatic new moves from President Bush on East-West relations; they will be looking to see if Mrs Thatcher still has political breath in her body.

The Prime Minister has become a big story in the United States for the first time in the Bush presidency.

American journalists based in Britain had become used to using London as a launch-pad for their voyages into Eastern Europe. Suddenly, or so it seemed, there were riots in the British streets and in the British prisons. "The belligerence of a growing underclass may challenge Thatcher's formidable hold on power", as *Newsweek* magazine put it.

The *Newsweek* editors this week compiled a catalogue of woes under the heading "Decline of an empire", the highest rate of prison occupancy in the EC, the lack of improvements in the London Underground, the decline in hospital beds. "Discontent with Thatcher's domestic programme is rising", wrote Scott

Sullivan, the European regional editor, "frustration with her growing feebleness in foreign affairs may not be far behind."

Mrs Thatcher is not going to be able to do much in Bermuda to appease the critics of the poll tax. She does have the opportunity to show Americans that her alleged feebleness towards European unity, Anglo-French co-operation and a united Germany is justified caution.

It will not be easy. The Prime Minister has long benefited from the tendency of the foreign press to simplify affairs for the folks back home. Mrs Thatcher was a "good thing" and a "successful thing" and therefore, in the jargon of the trade, generally either an "up story" or no story at all. Now she is suddenly a "down story".

Mrs Thatcher still has many American supporters in the press. Mr Arnold Beichman of the Hoover Institution says: "There is no indication that her opponents in the Conservative or Labour parties have any useful idea of how to get Britain out of its mild slump". The columnist Jim Hoagland,

in *The Washington Post*, criticizes Mrs Thatcher's biographer, Hugo Young, for his gloomy predictions about her future. He praises her determination not to accept the status quo on taxes and benefits which he sees as bedevilling the corporatist governments of Europe.

But, for the most part, it is the views of Mr Young and Mrs Thatcher's other long-term critics which are the most respectfully repeated. *Marxism Today* is quoted as though it were the political barometer of Middle England.

The only MP quoted by *Newsweek* is Sir Barney Hayhoe, the former Health Minister and Thatcher critic, although the magazine muddled its argument by placing him in the Labour Party.

The combination of this tendency with the television pictures from Trafalgar Square and Strangeways has created a devastating impression. Mrs Thatcher has been made fully aware of this and is expected to try to do something in Bermuda to show she is still a player in the game.

Leading article, page 9



Mrs Thatcher, accompanied by her husband Denis, leaving Heathrow Airport yesterday for Bermuda, where she will have talks today with President Bush

Foreign press turns guns on the Iron Lady

By Libby Jakes

WITH Mrs Thatcher setting records for the most unpopular Prime Minister in the history of opinion polls, foreign newspapers are now convinced that the Government they always perceived as a long-running, one-woman show has come to the end of the road.

"What now, Mrs Thatcher?" the right-wing West German weekly *Rheinischer Merkur* asked provocatively. The article accompanied by a photograph of the Prime Minister looking through binoculars, suggested that the British no longer share her own far-sighted self-image.

Although another article praised Mrs Thatcher as the first politician to recognize the political changes in Europe, it complained that her illusion about a special relationship with the US made her believe wrongly that Britain had a special role in the West.

Meanwhile, the *Strangeways* prison disturbances prompted *Die Welt* to observe that "England's society has been made violent as a consequence of *laissez-faire*". Pointing out that "Thatcherism" had succeeded in changing nearly every British institution except its prisons, the commentary continued: "Only very slowly is the insight dawning that prison is not the best place for socialization - especially not an English prison."

Mrs Thatcher's initial coolness towards reunification

alienated her from the West German popular press which, with *Bild* to the fore, now relishes any bad news about her.

But she stirred up even more animosity across the Channel last summer with her pre-Bastille Day comment that Britain beat France to its revolution by a century.

A front-page leader in *Le Monde* last week described the Trafalgar Square riot as "the price that Britain has to pay for certain aspects of Mrs Thatcher's policies".

"For the last few years, in fact, we have seen a mounting level of violence in Great Britain, paradoxical in a country whose democratic tradition is among the oldest in the world," it said.

"For many Britons, their country is going through a moral crisis. Systematic liberalism (free market private enterprise) - even if merited on a strictly economic basis - by nature favours egoism over community spirit." It concluded: "There is perhaps something symbolic in the fact that it was precisely in the Strangeways chapel that the rioting erupted on Sunday." The right-wing *Le Figaro* managed to damn the Prime Minister with faint praise, saying that the poll tax was intelligent and easy to apply - but unseizable.

The Italian press, while not sharing the traditional rivalry between the French and the British, has never found *la lady di ferro* particularly sympathetic, despite its admiration for her dynamic and authoritative style of leadership.

Concentrating on her loss of middle-class support, the leading independent *Corriere della Sera* warned last week that "constituencies like Westminster and Wandsworth, solidly Conservative, risk coming under control of the opposition" - surely exceeding Central Office's gloomiest forecasts.

But *La Stampa*, under the headline, "Maggie sinks, worse than Chamberlain", concluded that, "La Signora, for the moment, does not want to surrender".

According to Mr Seichi Kubota, London bureau chief of the influential *Asahi Shimbun*, the poll-tax violence was the biggest British story in Japan since the February gales. "But there was little editorial comment," he said. "Most Japanese are very ill-informed about leadership contenders and the Labour Party. Mrs Thatcher and Britain are synonymous."

"If Thatcher's star is waning, the shadows across it are monetary and fiscal," said the South African *Financial Mail*, blaming her declining popularity on Britain's poor economic performance. "The marketplace, Thatcher's revered arbiter of all things, will have the final say. But the portents are not good."

From nearly every quarter except the Soviet Union, where her personal rating is well above that of President Gorbachev, Mrs Thatcher now gets a bad press.

Support for Mrs Thatcher from *Pravda* would once have been unthinkable, but a recent article, saying that "the Conservatives might be doomed to defeat, and the pendulum cannot remain in the same position for ever," contained none of the gloating of earlier days, when the Iron Lady was a formidable ideological opponent.

Rebel fire kills 14 in Kabul

Kabul - Rockets fired by guerrillas fighting the Soviet-backed Afghan Government blasted into Kabul yesterday, killing at least 12 children and two adults.

More than 10 people were wounded in the barrage, which broke a lull in the capital of more than two weeks. (Reuters)

Seoul pardon

Seoul - South Korea pardoned a North Korean woman agent, Kim Hyun-hui, condemned to hang for blowing up a Korean Air jet in mid-air, killing 115 people. (Reuters)

War crimes

Toronto - Government officials will go to West Germany to urge action against former SS general Herr Wilhelm Mohnke, accused of ordering executions of Canadian prisoners in 1944. (Reuters)

Malay polls

Kuala Lumpur - Malaysia's Prime Minister, Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamed said that general elections would be held soon. (Reuters)

Bomb toll

Bogota - Sixteen died and at least 73 others were hurt by a car bomb planted by suspected drug traffickers near Medellin. (AP)

Scrolls study

Geneva - The Dead Sea Scrolls are to be carbon-dated by Professor Willy Woodfill, of Zurich's Technology Institute.

Monk one of 10 on Eta charges

From Susan MacDonald, Paris

IN FRENCH Basque country, the Bishop of Bayonne yesterday offered Easter prayers for a local monk who, with nine other French people, was this week charged with involvement in the activities of Eta, the Spanish Basque separatist group.

It was apparently M Henri Parot, arrested by Spanish police in Seville last week with more than 650lb of dynamite in his car, who gave police the names of those arrested in France.

M Parot and some of his French compatriots are suspected by Spanish police of having operated an elite commando group which committed some of the worst Eta terrorist attacks in Spain in the past 12 years, killing a total of 30 people.

Their alleged attacks include the bombing of the Guardia Civil (paramilitary police) barracks at Zaragoza in 1987 in which 11 people, among them five children, were killed.

The fact that French Basques are apparently actively involved in Spanish Basque terrorism is an embarrassment for France.

Successive French governments have portrayed the French Basque country only

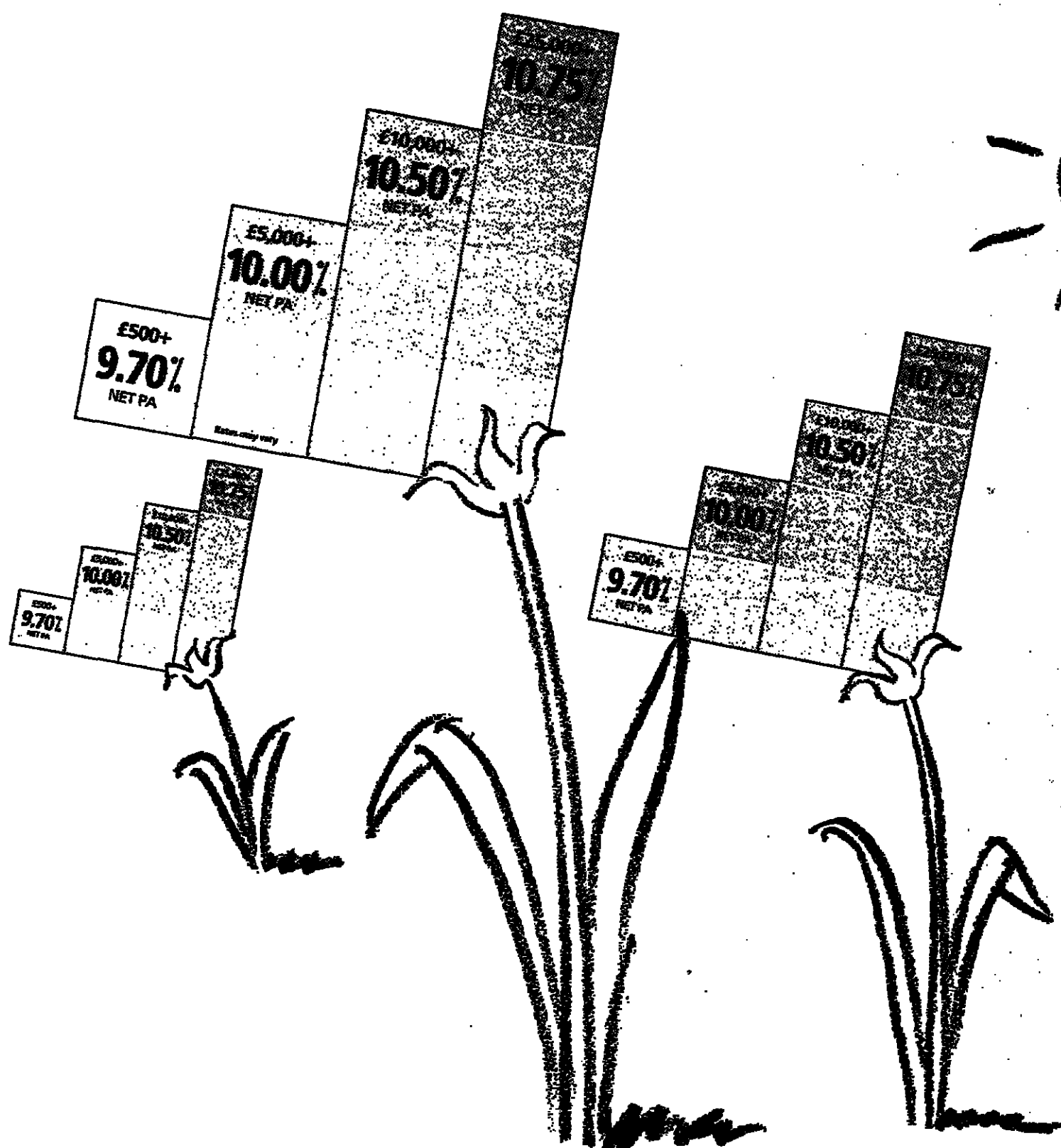
as an occasional haven for Spanish Eta terrorists. Local terrorism on this side of the border was seen as merely small-time, with most of those involved being either in prison or dead.

The press has explained how no one could have suspected the 10 arrested men of terrorism. Brother Philippe Saez entered a monastery in 1987, and all the others had respectable jobs, mainly as salesmen, which enabled them to travel to and from Spain. It was, however, true that they were all known Basque nationalists, and two were supposedly wanted by GAL, the alleged police "death squad" which targets Eta terrorists.

Now, according to *Le Monde*, one of Spain's most wanted men, Señor Francisco Múgica, known as "Arripalo", the present suspected head of Eta's hardline faction, could be in hiding on the French side of the border.

M Parot is now saying that some of his confession last week was extracted under brutal Spanish police treatment, but the French have treated his revelations seriously to arrest the nine said to be linked to him.

If they come to trial, the hearings will be in France.



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East Berlin pledges a rapid pace for unity

From Anne McElvey, East Berlin

THE new East German coalition Government will pursue speedy reunification in accordance with Article 23 of West Germany's Basic Law. It also envisages Nato membership for a unified Germany, it said in its first statement to the Volkskammer yesterday.

The Volkskammer sat yesterday for the second time to swear in Herr Lothar de Maizière, the Christian Democrat leader, as Prime Minister, and approve the coalition Cabinet. Afterwards Herr Matthias Gehler, the government spokesman, said East Germany intended to pursue unity "rapidly and responsibly".

Article 23 provides for the merging of East and West Germany within the existing constitutional framework of the Federal Republic after a referendum in the East. Its acceptance by all coalition partners considerably smooths the path of the two Germanies towards unity.

The Social Democrats had refused to support Article 23, but have been reassured by Bonn that the existing provisions can be modified to avoid an unconditional annexation of East Germany.

A government spokesman said talks in East Berlin next Thursday on a treaty to make the Deutschmark the common currency. Both governments want currency union as soon as possible.

The Cabinet Minister Lothar de Maizière (CDU); Interior Minister Peter-Michael Diestel (DSU); PM's Chief of Staff Klaus Reichenbach (CDU); State Secretary in PM's office Günther Krause (CDU); Foreign Minister Manfred Meck (SPD); Defence and Disarmament Minister Rainer Eppelmann (DA); Economic Minister Wolfgang Rindler (SPD); Trade and Commerce Minister Peter-Peter Jochims (SPD); Justice Minister Winfried (L); Labour and Social Affairs Minister Rainer Eppelmann (SPD); Environment and Energy Minister Rainer Eppelmann (CDU); Health Minister Rainer Eppelmann (CDU); Education Minister Rainer Eppelmann (CDU); Science Minister Rainer Eppelmann (CDU); Culture Minister Rainer Eppelmann (CDU); Agriculture Minister Rainer Eppelmann (CDU); Transport Minister Rainer Eppelmann (CDU); Regional Affairs Minister Rainer Eppelmann (CDU); Youth and Sports Minister Rainer Eppelmann (CDU); Women and Family Affairs Minister Rainer Eppelmann (CDU); Religion Minister Rainer Eppelmann (CDU); Veterans and Social Affairs Minister Rainer Eppelmann (CDU); German Democratic Republic (DDR) - Christian Democratic Union (CDU); German Democratic Republic (DDR) - Social Democratic Party (SDP); German Democratic Republic (DDR) - Liberal Party (DA); German Democratic Republic (DDR) - Democratic Awakening (L); Independent.

Serbs tighten grip on media

From Richard Bassett and Dossa Trevisan, Belgrade

TWO senior editors of Novi Sad television have been suspended as the Serbian leadership continued its purge of the media.

The two journalists, Miss Doda Dot-Isakov and Miss Biljana Borkovic, were accused of committing a "grave political error" in editing a news bulletin on Sunday which covered rallies in Serbia and Croatia. While 50,000 Serbs celebrated the 175th anniversary of their second uprising against the Turks, more than 200,000 Croats turned out in Zagreb for a political rally addressed by Mr Franjo Tudjman, the leader of the Croat Democratic Union.

The journalists' "error" was to have dared to allot the same amount of time to the Croat rally as they did to the Serbian meeting, attended by Mr Slobodan Milosevic, the Serbian leader, who has kept the media on a tight leash since coming to power in 1987.

He has turned what was once the most liberal press in Yugoslavia into, in the words of one British diplomat here, "a shameful propaganda machine worthy of Goebbels".

The leading Serbian daily, *Politika*, recently denounced the American Ambassador, Mr Warren Zimmermann, and the German daily *Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung* for harbouring "anti-Serb" sentiments because both drew attention to human rights abuses by Serbs in Kosovo.

In the television studios, every journalist who has dared to criticise Mr Milosevic has been marginalized. Few in Belgrade imagine that the fact that all are non-Serbs is irrelevant. It is widely believed that Mr Milosevic would like the Serbian media to be "ethnically pure".

Senator Dennis DeConcini, the American congressman who led a four-man Con-

ference on Security and Co-operation in Europe delegation to Kosovo last week, said yesterday that human rights violations were taking place in Kosovo because of "heavy-handed behaviour by Serbian authorities".

The visit coincided with the resignation of all remaining Albanian members of the regional government, including the Premier, in protest at Serbia's "terror and apartheid". The province, which is predominantly ethnic Albanian, is now ruled exclusively by Serbs. Serbian police have replaced hundreds of dismissed Albanian officials.

Between Poland and Lithuania, a small corner of land, the Kaliningrad oblast (province) of the Russian Federation, formerly East Prussia, is quietly stagnating, waiting, perhaps, some day to write a new page in history.

From the 13th century, when German knights pushed across the Vistula river to subjugate the pagan Prussian tribes, to the winter of 1945, this "forgotten" Baltic region was a German province, giving its name to the kingdom of the Hohenzollerns, who unified 19th-century Germany.

It was the heartland of the junkers, the land-owning nobility who shaped the Second German Empire, and the home of Immanuel Kant, who gave modern philosophical form to the Prussian Protestant conscience.

At the end of 1944, when Red Army troops burst in, taking revenge for Germany's atrocities in Russia, the German population fled. Hun-



Herr Hans Modrow, the East German caretaker Prime Minister, congratulating his successor, Herr Lothar de Maizière, sworn in yesterday

Smugglers creating a profitable paradise in a post-Wall world

From Anne McElvey, East Berlin

ON THE soulless scrublands of the Polish Market in West Berlin's Kreuzberg district Jerzy begins to set up his stall at 6am, fresh off the first train from Warsaw.

Out of inconspicuous tattered suitcases tumble the illicit luxuries of the East: a mink jacket, tins of Russian caviar, Hungarian foie gras and three spare car tyres - "the hottest property of all" he says with a grin.

Jerzy is in good spirits having crossed the East German border into West Berlin without being stopped at customs. He was lucky. On the day he arrived the West Berlin police recorded their biggest seizure, confiscating 60,000 cigarettes, dozens of furs and what they could quantify only as "substantial amounts" of hard currency destined for the black market.

Most of the traders squabbling over ground space deal in the lower-risk goods of cigarettes and alcohol which are steady Deutschmark earners, for the Poles risk border traps on their weekly pilgrimage to the hard currency mecca of West Berlin. In the first three months of this

year customs offices have caught 26,000 smugglers, but they admit this is a fraction of the total and that the number prepared to take the risk of trading on the *Polenmarkt* is growing by the month.

A report by the West Berlin Senate's finances department admits that the amount of goods being turned back at the border is now so large as to be "intestible" and that the figures are rising.

Over a million Poles crossed East Germany into West Berlin on day or weekend trips last month. Any intensification of the random customs inspection would jar with attempts to promote tolerance and understanding between Poles and Germans which is not traditionally highly developed.

Big-timers like Jerzy are skilled in the vagaries of supply and demand across the persistent economic Iron Curtain. With his profits from the market he buys clapped-out Volkswagens and electrical goods in Berlin which fetch a good price in Poland and invests the money in food-stuffs and furs desired by Berliners keen on a luxury

bargain. He jokes that he has now "expanded into Russia", having set up a deal of cars for caviar with a black market trader in the Soviet town of Grodno just over the Polish border.

Many of the goods on the market are East German in origin with giant salamis, children's clothes and cheap brandy the top sellers. A little judicious juggling of zloty and Ostmarks can mean a small but steady profit despite the open borders.

The sight of Poles buying suspiciously large quantities of food at the subsidized prices of East German food halls has long been a source of tension. With both the subsidies and currencies of Eastern Europe now in flux, however, the game has started to work the other way.

East Germans last weekend suddenly found that their despised currency, usually referred to merely as "shrapnel", has gained in value against the Deutschmark by 20 per cent due to the expectation of a union between the two currencies in the summer. The result has been a doubling in the value of the East

German mark against the zloty, which means that even after the reduction in subsidies on Polish goods they are a bargain for East Germans.

An extra lure is the offer in Poland of goods reimported from the Polish market in West Berlin at a lower price than in the West Berlin stores which are still prohibitive to many East Germans.

The Polish news agency reported that convoys of East Germans arrived in the border town of Sztetin last weekend to buy up fruit and vegetables, leather goods and shoes.

The East Germans, who have been used to having their erratically stocked shops plundered by West Germans on one side and Poles on the other, are delighted to find that they are now in a strong enough position to be speculators too.

The entire process is a textbook example of capitalism run wild as berated in the schoolbooks of their communist youth. It is also every enterprise-starved Eastern European's idea of paradise - trade across open borders with no tax and with profits all along the way.

Estonia opposes military call-up

From Michael Binyon, Moscow

ESTONIA'S parliament yesterday voted to stop service by its citizens in the Soviet armed forces, a move that is certain to heighten tensions between the Military Command here and the Baltic republics.

After a heated debate, deputies voted by 71 to three to suspend the constitutional articles governing military service. Twenty-seven pro-Moscow deputies did not vote.

Parliament called for talks to avoid confrontation with the Army. But the immediate reaction from Moscow was critical. Tass reported protests by Russian speakers in Estonia and said that some cities had not recognized the decision.

A recent poll in Moldavia, released yesterday, showed that only a quarter of the young men interviewed did not express apprehension at being called up, and more than half their parents thought it served no useful purpose.

The poll showed widespread reluctance to serve in the Soviet Army. Fewer than half those questioned thought they were physically prepared for military service.

The poll was conducted among 3,000 pupils in their final year at schools in Kishinev, the Moldavian capital. Only a quarter looked forward to the call-up; the rest said they were registering because it was a constitutional duty.

Moldavia, like most outlying republics, has seen a sharp rise in the number of people refusing military service for political reasons.

Senior officers have been particularly disturbed by the rise in refusals in the Baltic republics and the Transcaucasus. A campaign has begun to enrol all those eligible in the spring call-up.

Mr Vladimir Lopatin, the chairman of a parliamentary commission looking at military reform, has called for an end to conscription and the establishment of all-volunteer forces within five years.

He told *Izvestia*: "The main idea is a stage by stage change to professional armed forces, smaller in number but better in quality."

The proposals would allow each of the 15 republics to recruit its own land force, administered jointly by Moscow and local authorities, but under the overall operational control of the chiefs of staff in Moscow.

Romanian uproar over patriarch

From Tim Judah, Bucharest

THE decision by the Romanian Orthodox Church to reinstate Patriarch Teoctist, its former leader, has come under attack by laymen and clergy alike.

Patriarch Teoctist resigned after last December's bloody revolution after confessing his guilt in collaborating with the regime of executed dictator Nicolae Ceausescu.

But in a surprise move last week the synod of the Romanian Orthodox Church voted to restore him.

Articles in the independent daily paper *Romania Libera* have bitterly attacked the church's decision, and a letter of protest signed by 138 prominent writers, professionals and dissident priests was published.

Among the signatories were two government ministers, members of Romania's provisional parliament, and intellectuals belonging to the independent Group of Social Dialogue.

In a stinging attack on the synod's decision, Mr Stelian Tanase, of the Group of Social Dialogue, said: "Comrade Teoctist was part of that section of the Church's hierarchy which was hand-in-glove with the Communist nomenclature."

"We want a revival and a clean-up in the Church. Patriarch Teoctist's couple of weeks of diplomatic withdrawal to the monastery of Sinaia are not enough."

There have been several calls for a radical purge of the Church's top hierarchy - many, if not all, of whom are said to be tainted by their collaboration with communism. Commentators suspect that it is for this reason, and because they fear for their future, that they voted to restore Patriarch Teoctist.

The articles in *Romania Libera* included protests signed by priests who remained anonymous. A protest note against the synod's decision was also sent by the students and the staff of the Theological College of Bucharest.

Several thousand people took to the streets of Moscow to protest against plans to prosecute two controversial Supreme Soviet deputies investigating corruption among Communist Party bosses in Uzbekistan.

The demonstration late on Wednesday called for a general strike yesterday if the Supreme Soviet agreed to the request of the Prosecutor's Office to strip the two men of their parliamentary immunity.

Mr Telman Gdylan and Mr Nikolai Ivanov, the two deputies, have publicly linked Mr Yegor Ligachov, the conservative Politburo member, with senior Uzbek officials under investigation for bribery and corruption. The case has become a cause célèbre and highlights the fierce power struggle between radicals and conservatives in both Moscow and Leningrad.

Last week the newly-elected Leningrad city council, which is dominated by radicals, sacked the head of the State Broadcasting Committee there because he refused to allow Mr Ivanov to air his accusations on a current affairs programme.

After a public outcry, Mr Ivanov attempted to do so two days later but was cut off in mid-broadcast. He finally reappeared uninterrupted a few hours later.

But Leningrad had defied an instruction from Moscow banning him from the screen. This has sharpened tensions between the radicals and the conservatives, who support the public prosecutor.

The two men are now seen as martyrs by the general public. There is widespread conviction that damning evidence exists to link the "Uzbek mafia" with senior party figures in power in Moscow.

So far both men have refused to give details of evidence they say they have. They were appointed to investigate corruption in Central Asia, but were subsequently dismissed by the prosecutor.

Rally in Moscow backs radicals

From Michael Binyon, Moscow

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recent years a good many have been allowed to emigrate to West Germany, but with that country now grappling with the East German influx, this no longer looks attractive.

The article discussed the possibility of returning to their former homes on the Volga, but rejected this, on the grounds that the soil has been exhausted by bad farming practices, and that the Russians settled on these lands would resist their return.

Another idea which has been widely discussed is that of consolidating the Germans in Central Asia into an autonomous republic, to be created within the Soviet republic of Kazakhstan. The article also opposed this scheme on the ground of poor economic prospects there.

A much more important objection is that it would risk inflaming still further the tension between Kazakhs and Europeans. Central Asia may soon become a very uncomfortable place for its European populations.

The author therefore settled upon Kaliningrad, given its German past, as an obvious choice for the creation of an autonomous republic, which could become another Soviet "window on the West", a channel for Western, and especially German, trade and technology.

The problem with this, for Moscow, is that it would mean the resettlement of the existing population which, in the long run, would almost certainly lead to reunification with Germany.

The idea of a German return to the eastern Baltic would terrify not just Poles, but also many Russians. It seems very unlikely, therefore, that a Soviet Government still in partial control of its country's destiny, would ever agree to this.

The next few years, however, could see hitherto unimaginable changes.

Hurd's visit an exercise in tact

From Nick Worrall, Leningrad

WITH Leningrad's new political leaders locked in argument over who should run the city and how, after last month's election eclipse of the Communist Party, Mr Douglas Hurd, the British Foreign Secretary, had to steer a diplomatic course during his 24-hour visit to the Soviet Union's second city.

The bloc of new democratic parties won a sweeping majority in the elections for the city's parliament and took control from the Communist Party. But it has begun to split into factions, and a series of day-and-night sittings over the past two and a half weeks has failed to agree on new procedures.

Mr Hurd's visit, after meetings in Moscow with President Gorbachev and the Foreign Minister, Mr Eduard Shevardnadze, was a chance to assess a rapidly changing political situation.

But there was a protocol problem: the city is still without a leader and the outgoing system no longer controls city politics, even though there are few signs yet that the Communist Party apparatus is about to surrender control. The only solution was to recall the outgoing Mayor, Mr Vladimir Khodarev, to host the welcome dinner on Wednesday night.

Then, yesterday morning, democrats arriving for their debate suddenly ignored a second meeting for Mr Hurd with Mr Khodarev and his party supporters at the city hall itself, a gracious 19th-century palace.

Between meetings Mr Hurd was interviewed for Leningrad television and questioned by reporter Natalia Antonova about British politics, the poll tax and the Government's falling ratings. He defended the position loyally, saying Mrs Thatcher had won three elections but between them had "always fallen to a pit of unpopularity".

At luncheon it was the democrats' turn. The scene was the fashionable Writers' Cafe in Nevsky Prospekt, formerly the Green Lamp, the haunt of the poet Alexander Pushkin.

Mr Hurd met prominent democrats led by the man they want to see as Leningrad's next mayor, Mr Anatoly Sobchak, a leading radical deputy in the Soviet Parliament, who is also planning to seek election in his home city when 25 vacant seats are contested next month.

Mr Hurd's last political call was on Lenin's original Communist headquarters, the Smolny, another opulent palace. It is now the office of the Leningrad district party committee. The city's controversial and conservative party boss, Mr Boris Gidaspov, had a heart attack on Tuesday, and so Mr Anatoly Denisov, the district party secretary, had to step in to give Mr Hurd a half-hour account of the changing Soviet political situation.



Mr Hurd: A diplomatic minefield in Leningrad

German dreams still haunt a 'forgotten' Baltic region

From Anatol Lieven, Jurbarkas, Lithuania

BETWEEN Poland and Lithuania, a small corner of land, the Kaliningrad oblast (province) of the Russian Federation, formerly East Prussia, is quietly stagnating, waiting, perhaps, some day to write a new page in history.

From the 13th century, when German knights pushed across the Vistula river to subjugate the pagan Prussian tribes, to the winter of 1945, this "forgotten" Baltic region was a German province, giving its name to the kingdom of the Hohenzollerns, who unified 19th-century Germany.

It was the heartland of the junkers, the land-owning nobility who shaped the Second German Empire, and the home of Immanuel Kant, who gave modern philosophical form to the Prussian Protestant conscience.

At the end of 1944, when Red Army troops burst in, taking revenge for Germany's atrocities in Russia, the German population fled. Hun-

reds of thousands starved, froze, were murdered or drowned in the Baltic. Those foolish enough to remain were killed or deported, either east or west, by the end of 1945. So far as is known, not one member of the former population remains in Kaliningrad today.

East Prussia was divided in three by the post-war settlement. The northern part, around the port of Memel (now Klaipeda), went to the Soviet Republic of Lithuania, the southern half to Poland, and the central part, around Königsberg (now Kaliningrad), the capital, to Russia.

Poland and Lithuania had ancient claims on parts of East Prussia. The Russian presence, however, was wholly new. The place of the Germans was taken by several hundred thousand Russian, Belorussian and Ukrainian settlers.

Königsberg was badly damaged in the Soviet assault. The

ruins were demolished, and Königsberg, an almost entirely new city, rose in its place, constructed on foundations of rubble.

Western visitors have been very few indeed, as Kaliningrad is a closed military area. It was after a wait of half a lifetime that Marion, Countess Donhoff, editor of the West German magazine, *Die Zeit*, and a member of a noble East Prussian family, was allowed to visit the home from which she escaped in 1944. Her hosts asked her to bring with her a bust of Kant, a copy of the famous monument destroyed in the war.

On her return to Germany, she described a sad landscape, where the "new" Russian settlers, after 45 years, were still largely dependent on the ancient German infrastructure.

She spoke of the irony of her huge family castle having been deliberately wiped from the face of the earth while, down

the road, an old German cowshed is still in use.

The decline, and the possible future disintegration of the Soviet Union, raises the question of the ultimate fate of this Russian island which, if Lithuania becomes independent, will be geographically isolated from the rest of the Soviet Union, although still open to the sea.

If the economic decline of the Soviet Union were to proceed indefinitely, living conditions in this isolated area could become almost intolerable. The heavy industry seems unlikely to be able to participate in any East European economic revival, and many people are dependent on a Soviet military presence which, presumably, would be reduced.

In these circumstances, some Lithuanians are beginning to think of the possibility of a new partition of the area, between Lithuania and Poland. This, they think, might

be by agreement with a future Russia obsessed with internal difficulties and anxious to shed extraneous problems.

The problem about such a scheme is that it would mean the first change in the international frontiers of 1945, and one which could hardly fail to attract German interest which the Poles, acutely sensitive to possible German plans for their own western territories, can do without.

The future of the territory has, however, been raised by Germans within the Soviet Union. In an article in the Soviet newspaper, *Literaturnaya Gazeta*, a representative of the so-called "Volga Germans" suggested that it might be made an "autonomous republic" for his people.

These Volga Germans were brought in by 18th-century tsars to develop what was then a frontier area, and lived on the Volga until deported to Central Asia by Stalin during the Second World War. In

recent years a good many have been allowed to emigrate to West Germany, but with that country now grappling with the East German influx, this no longer looks attractive.

The article discussed the possibility of returning to their former homes on the Volga, but rejected this, on the grounds that the soil has been exhausted by bad farming practices, and that the Russians settled on these lands would resist their return.

Another idea which has been widely discussed is that of consolidating the Germans in Central Asia into an autonomous republic, to be created within the Soviet republic of Kazakhstan. The article also opposed this scheme on the ground of poor economic prospects there.

A much more important objection is that it would risk inflaming still further the tension between Kazakhs and Europeans. Central Asia may soon become a very uncomfortable place for its European populations.

The author therefore settled upon Kaliningrad, given its German past, as an obvious choice for the creation of an autonomous republic, which could become another Soviet "window on the West", a channel for Western, and especially German, trade and technology.

The problem with this, for Moscow, is that it would mean the resettlement of the existing population which, in the long run, would almost certainly lead to reunification with Germany.

The idea of a German return to the eastern Baltic would terrify not just Poles, but also many Russians. It seems very unlikely, therefore, that a Soviet Government still in partial control of its country's destiny, would ever agree to this.

The next few years, however, could see hitherto unimaginable changes.

TIMES DIARY

RICHARD FORD

Spare a thought for Conservative MPs and prospective parliamentary candidates trying to relax during the Easter recess. However far they travel from Westminster, there is no escaping the odium attracted by the poll tax. Three Conservative MPs had hoped their recent parliamentary delegation to the Falkland Islands would give them respite. Alas, Port Stanley offered no relief to Nicholas Winter, Jacques Arnold and Gerald Bowden. Five aggrieved Scottish workers building a school downed tools to vent their



Coe: found it amusing

anger about the tax, and even some of "our boys" felt emboldened to ask how it applied to servicemen. And in deepest Cornwall the Tory candidate Sebastian Coe found no refuge. Presenting the English Schools Cross Country championship prizes, he was just putting a medal around a winner's neck when a sixth-former interrupted proceedings by asking what he was going to do about the poll tax. "I just smiled. It was quite amusing," said Coe.

Is there a future Conservative Lord Chancellor in the latest list of Queen's Counsel? The Minister for Industry, Douglas Hogg, scion of one of England's great political dynasties, is following in the footsteps of his grandfather, father and sister by taking silk. Both his grandfather and father, Lord Hailsham of St Marylebone, were illustrious Lord Chancellors in Tory administrations. Savouring the news, Lord Hailsham yesterday preferred to see the announcement as proof that there is something in the hereditary principle.

A seat on the board of London Regional Transport may seem a less attractive proposition if an idea advocated by Lord Boyd-Carpenter, a former Conservative transport minister, finds favour. The peer is determined that directors of LRT should endure some of the problems commuters experience daily. He is demanding that, as a condition of service, directors in future travel to work by public transport at least once a week.

Members of Labour Youth are in need of the kind of syllabus and testing planned in the Government's national curriculum. Referring to the Mid-Staffordshire by-election campaign, the newsletter of the junior wing of red rose socialism commented that it was "kneek and kneek".

A Civil Service ruse to save Government embarrassment about its lack of representation in Scotland has misfired. John Home Robertson, the Labour MP for East Lothian, provided Sir Geoffrey Howe, the leader of the House, with figures indicating Tory whips were planting questions with English MPs during Scottish Office questions, to help gain television



Home Robertson: the wrong letter

coverage for beleaguered Conservatives in Scotland. Unfortunately, there was a mix-up over the reply. Home Robertson received the advice on a response offered to Sir Geoffrey by a civil servant. "I enclose a self-explanatory suggested form of words which deliberately avoids commenting on the statistics he [Home Robertson] quotes," it stated smoothly. Robertson now has a reply from Sir Geoffrey. It is the same, almost word for word, as the one suggested by the civil servant.

With Tory fortunes so low, it must be galling to the Prime Minister and others that one man in more demand than ever is Ted Heath. An average of 60 invitations a week - compared with 40 for Mrs Thatcher's putative challenger, Michael Heseltine - ensures he has abundant opportunity to propound his alternative vision. Heath is more than happy to oblige, and recent visits to Bruges and the University of Michigan have provided an international platform for his anti-Thatcher views on Europe. Heath's membership of this select group has other uses: it brought Helmut Schmidt, Jacques Chirac and David Rockefeller to a fundraising concert for Salisbury Cathedral, which is just opposite his home.

One of the compensations - one, indeed, of the considerable relief - of what we shall call middle maturity is that you cease testing yourself. You no longer deliberately confront the hitherto unfronted in order to discover what sort of person you are. This is partly because you have found out almost all there is to find out, partly because you have better things to do with the diminishing time remaining than to wrinkle out the few things you do not know and put scalpels and litmus to them, and partly because you also have better things to do with the diminishing time remaining than to act upon the information received.

Then somebody buys you a telescope. Nobody who is bought a telescope says, "Hallo, a telescope", and leaves it in the box in case it spells trouble. He opens the box.

He takes out all the gleaming enamelled tubes and the glittering brass fittings and the winking blued lenses, and he begins fitting them together. He takes out the anodized tripod, and he screws its sturdy black rubber feet on, and he spans the bracing struts into place, and he sets it up and fits the telescope to it, and upon the sixth hour he stands back and looks at the work that he has done, and finds it good. He rests from his labours with a large one. He walks around the telescope, so that, from any angle, he may congratulate himself on being the sort of man who can put together a complicated thing like a telescope. And he does not once, during

all this, ask himself if he is the sort of man who looks through them. Even though he has always maintained that there are two sorts of people who look through things, and that the sorts they are determined by the sort of things through which they look. There are binocular men and there are telescope men. Binocular men are extrovert, outdoor, tough, racy, dominant and decisive. In a crisis, the man with binoculars runs his neck puts them to his eyes, comes to an instant conclusion, and acts upon it. He may do this from the top of the Goodwood stands, or from the turret of a Tiger tank, or from just below the South Col of

Everest, or even from a big cardboard box on Romney Marsh. But whether he is bent on determining if the second favourite is to be backed, or the attack to commence from the left flank, or



ALAN COREN

the assault on the summit to be made before the weather closes in, or merely if the thing hopping about in his lenses is greater or lesser spotted, determine it he will, because that is what he does. Telescope men, on the other hand, are introvert, indoor, meek, dull, biddable, and dithering. They sit in the loft, with one eye shut, wondering what it is that the other eye is seeing. Is that Betelgeuse? Concorde? A goat on the lens? They entertain theories about black holes and red dwarfs, but with scant conviction. They wonder about how it all started, what it is doing now, and where it will all end; but they will not commit themselves.

Now, into which category have I spent my life intruding? I tell of course. Furthermore, apart from all that, I have never had the slightest interest in the heavens. I am one of those solipsists who, strolling out on to a nocturnal terrace and gazing up at the blackness's billion punctuation points, suddenly has borne in upon him how insignificant they are. I have never recognized any of them from their photographs. I have, of course, long known that there is a collection which looks like a saucer, but on the nights when, for some reason, it hasn't seemed to be there, it has never bothered me in the slightest. But look at me now. This is my

third midnight in the loft. That is a bottle of Volnay. Those are cheddar sandwiches. The big fat book is *The Times Atlas of the Universe*. We are all waiting for things to rise, but the big fat book is the only one who knows what those things are. The rest of us are equally in the dark; although, on reflection, I cannot speak for the cheddar, which is full of bacteria that may have some innate sense regarding star movements. The curious - and unimpressive - thing is that it doesn't matter when I peer through the telescope, the stars are scarcely larger than they are with the naked eye, and yet I cannot stop looking at them. I do not know why this should be. All I know is that I should have preferred not to have taken. I have, probably with everything which this entails, become a telescope man.

Barbara Amiel advises firm British response to international blackmail

Hostages without honour

Madame Jacqueline Valente is free, along with her companion M. Fernand Houtekins and their optimistically named daughter, Sophie-Liberte. Seventeen Westerners remain held in Lebanon, three of whom are British and include Mr Terry Waite. Once more the focus is on Western policy. When hostages' lives are at stake, what is the proper balance between pragmatic and moral considerations? Can one in fact make such a distinction? The taking of hostages is as old as humanity itself. Ever since it was first discovered that you could get something of value from loved ones or a kingdom, people have been taking hostages. It was done, I suppose, in the most civilized fashion during the Middle Ages. Foot soldiers would be slaughtered, but during any engagement knights were to be taken alive if possible and held for ransom. Hostage-taking was a civilizing influence upon battle and a life-saving device for upper-class warriors. A prisoner, after all, was of no earthly use unless one could make him a slave. Christianity all but abolished the institution of slavery, which left only mass slaughter as an answer.

There is no such civilizing aspect to hostage-taking today. It

is a nightmare by all standards, to which we pay lip service in the West. There is general agreement that any nation or group that kidnaps people for ransom of any kind (or tolerates such activities within its borders) safely removes itself from all moral considerations of civilization. The sole concern in handling such situations is a practical one. How can one reduce the incentive to engage in kidnapping? The argument that Mrs Thatcher has used against dealing with terrorists is simple enough. If we reward hostage-taking then we simply create a market rather like that of, say, ivory. Punishment in the case of capture is generally insufficient to deter others. Many people will engage in risky activities because they think they can get away with them. There are hardly any people who will engage in unprofitable activities; this is why banks are more often robbed than schools. A country can try, as France may have done, to

exchange terrorists for a promise of immunity. This simply converts kidnapping into a protection racket. We could, on the other hand, try to free ourselves from preconceptions and take a medieval approach to hostage-taking. Without getting upset, we could recognize the ransom of human beings as one of the facts of life and attempt to civilize the trade. We could indicate that we would pay better and more promptly if the hostages were well housed and had not lost weight. It would, we might argue, simply be the price of doing business in the modern world. After all, the people who make political demands generally settle for goods and merchandise such as a Mirage jet or the unfreezing of assets. Pirates and raiders have always found political demands virtually impossible to win, but a financial deal can always be made. British policy on dealing with the hostage issue is not clear to me. On one hand Mrs Thatcher

seems adamant that there will be no deals, at the same time we have been muted in our responses to the Salman Rushdie affair and the execution of Farzad Bazdvi. Whenever the British stance, negotiations cannot proceed on the basis of nothing. We cannot offer nothing, threaten nothing and conclude that unless you return our chaps we will be mad. We could deny landing rights to planes, cut off commerce, isolate nations and so on. This might be particularly effective now that the possibility exists of doing this in concert with the Soviet Union. We will not do this. The unspoken truth about hostage-taking and terrorism is that it really does not cost us very much and is not very inconvenient. It is far more expensive to cut off Syria, Iraq, Iran and Libya than to have a few church envoys or half-a-dozen British businessmen. Our policy is hostage to the fact that we place little value now on our national status and honour.

In my view, we are wrong. This attitude creates a certain ambience in the world that diminishes each one of us, both spiritually and practically. Britain and France were in an entirely different position when the world understood that one could send out the gumboots. This, incidentally, is not a question of gumboot diplomacy, the charge automatically levelled at anyone using the word gumboot. We did not have a show of force because the death of a missionary was an unendurable material loss to Her Majesty. We had missionaries to spare. The point was to make it clear to the various cannibals of the world that they could not eat a British subject. Now, although we cannot say it publicly, we take the attitude that we have journalists and envoys to spare for a number of meals. As a final note, I found it ironic to see the photographs of the Princess Royal in the daily

papers this week, when she gave her moving speech against drugs. One photograph was placed just below that of the newly released Sophie-Liberte playing in West Beirut. I may have been particularly obtuse, but in all the press coverage of the international conference on drugs held in London, I saw not one reference to the Syrian occupation of Lebanon's Bekaa Valley, an occupation whose major purpose is the cultivation of opium and the refinement of cocaine in order to obtain the money to finance the terrorist activities that end up with hostages. The West seems strangely indifferent to the matter, perhaps because President Assad of Syria is viewed as a possible peacekeeper in the Middle East. Perhaps this explains why the United States turns over some \$95 million a year to him as a subsidy for not cultivating drugs. According to court proceedings in France earlier this year, a ship called the *Cleopatra Sky*, filled with three tons of drugs and heading for Britain, was loaded in Lebanon in the presence of the Syrian military authorities. The Americans, it is claimed, view the matter benignly, so long as most of Syria's drug trafficking is aimed at Europe. Can Mrs Thatcher afford to be quite so jejune?

Christ and the wider world of human rights

Human beings are born with supreme worth: but everywhere that worth is denied. The Kurds, spread over five countries with no country of their own, and the indigenous peoples in South America are just a few whose basic human rights are today being violated. Since the Second World War, Christians have shared in a general commitment to the furtherance of human rights. It is doubtful, however, whether they have yet evolved an adequate theological underpinning for this concern. A sense of human worth and dignity, though fundamental, is not by itself enough to provide this basis. Yet Christianity, with its realistic understanding of human nature, does have the necessary insights.

They were classically formulated by Reinhold Niebuhr in his book *The Children of Light and the Children of Darkness*. Standing in the tradition of Christian realism, whose best known exponents are Augustine and Luther, Niebuhr argued that where this tradition had gone wrong was not in its sombre account of human behaviour, but in failing to apply this account consistently.

Luther, for example, argued that human beings were like ravening tigers, who would tear one another apart given half a chance. In order to stop this happening, we needed to be put in cages, the bars being provided by the strong state with its powers of coercion. What Luther failed to see, according to Niebuhr, was that the rulers needed a cage even more than the citizens. Not only do they share the same destructive capacity, they have far greater opportunity to hurt and harm. The cage for rulers is provided by the checks and balances of a liberal democracy.

In short, democracy is underpinned by Christianity, for both have a high evaluation of human nature and human freedom but realize that we need curbs on human destructiveness, particularly on the potential harm that rulers can do to the ruled. The Christian justification for human rights follows the same lines, which is not surprising given that a concern for human rights is part and parcel of the Western democratic tradition.

Government needs a check on it, even when, perhaps especially when, it is most convinced that it is acting for the well-being of all its citizens. There is an interesting link here with Ronald Dworkin's view that human rights are "political trumps". As he wrote: "If someone has a right to something, then it is wrong for the government to deny it to him, even though it would be in the general interest to do so."

If we lived in a perfect society, there would be no need to talk of human rights. In a family that is working harmoniously, rights are rarely referred to. When love is present we instinctively recognize and respect the dignity of others. But because this dignity is so often denied and the value

Richard Harries, Bishop of Oxford, asks for a broadening of our view of the rights of man beyond the widely flouted terms of the UN Declaration



of human beings is violated, we have to have legally recognized and enforceable rights.

We now have in place a remarkable body of international human rights laws. The churches have shared in the evolution and monitoring of these rights, particularly in Eastern Europe and the Soviet Union. However, during the past decade, Christians in other continents have become dissatisfied with the European emphasis. As Jose Bonino has put it: "For the vast majority of the population of the world today the basic 'human right' is 'the right to human life'..." The drive towards universality in the quest of the American and French Revolutions, the aspirations in the UN Declaration, finds its historical focus today for us in the struggle of the poor, the economically and socially oppressed, for their liberation."

As the German theologian, Jurgen Moltmann, has written: "I think that only with this concrete starting point in the theology of liberation can universal theories and declarations about the freedom of man be protected from their misuse." In short, now that civil and political rights are more assured in many countries, the concern must be with social and economic rights. These rights are present in the relevant documents.

The Universal Declaration states: "Everyone has the right to a standard of living adequate to the health and well-being of himself and his family, including food, clothing, housing and medical care and necessary social services." Sadly, there is also an acknowledgement in the various covenants that the implementation of these rights is relative and progressive. They are to be implemented "to the maximum of [the state's] available re-

sources" and "by all appropriate means". This drains these admirable documents of something of their urgent moral imperative.

That overriding moral imperative was understood by the great fathers of the 4th century. They believed that God had bestowed goods of the earth on humanity as a whole. All things were in principle in common, so to meet someone's need for the basic necessities of life was not an act of charity but of justice. It was rendering to him what was his by right, what was his due. Ambrose wrote: "Not from your own do you bestow upon the poor man, if you make return from what is his. For what has been given is common for the use of all, the earth belongs to all, not to the rich. Therefore you are paying a debt, you are bestowing what is due."

Chrysostom wrote: "This is robbery: not to share one's resources." Augustine made the same point. "The superfluous things of the wealthy are the necessities of the poor. When superfluous things are possessed, others' property is possessed." Something of this moral urgency needs to inform the implementation of those economic and social rights which are now legally recognized, for the world as a whole certainly has a surplus, which is at the moment denied to the 600 million people living below starvation level.

In recent years, the concept of responsibility and the notion of duty have largely dropped out of discussion. The suspicion of the notion of responsibility among fervent advocates of human rights is understandable, for it can be used to disguise injustice and encourage complacency. Responsibility implies adherence to the law and not bucking the system. Now that we have an international law of human rights, we should bring the concept of responsibility out of its locker and dust it over; not so as to neglect human rights, but so as to reinforce their importance. First of all, we may have a responsibility even when we have no legal obligations. For example, we have responsibilities towards animals even though their legal rights are somewhat obscure and undeveloped. Second, a legal right is a bare minimum. Those conscious of their responsibility to others are concerned that they have more than this, but the legal minimum is necessary because even this is often denied in practice. But even if, for example, the basic rights of prisoners are being observed, we have a responsibility for their well-being in a wider sense.

Above all, we have a responsibility to enforce the human rights entrenched in international law. They are there on paper, in legislation, but are far from being observed or implemented in many parts of the world. A longer version of this article was recently presented to the British Institute for Human Rights.

Philip Howard: new words for old

Barbarians of the better sort

With Parliament in recess, our chief manufactory of hot air has fallen silent. There the rancorous be at rest. Abuse of the opposition has always been a part of democracy, but our modern politicians are less abusive than their predecessors in one respect at least: on the whole it is now considered bad form to animadvert on the opposition's accent or bad grammar. If we were to get down to that, which of us would "scape whipping"? Such holds were not barred when Cicero led for the opposition.

A barbarian was originally simply a foreigner, who went *bar-bar* instead of speaking Greek. A barbarism is a word formed in an unorthodox, unGreek way. A solecism means bad grammar, because the snobbish Athenians considered that their colonists at Soloi in Cilicia tended to construe their sentences like a drunken Glaswegian. The House of Commons, when it is sitting, is a rich mine of barbarism and solecism. But then, its members are all British, and by definition barbarians anyway. Here is a new word, coming in; but is it a barbarism?

The oculists are in the process of coining a word to describe the deterioration through ageing of contact lenses. What happens is that after a time lenses become clouded by scratches, distortion, bacteria, fungi, and general gunge. The word needs to sound scientific and up-beat, not suggesting that the little bits of plastic that we insert with pain and grief into our eyes are anything other than perfect. Ageing, deterioration and degradation get the thumbs-down for sounding downbeat and unflattering. The oculists have decided to coin the jargon "opacities" to describe the way that contact lenses deteriorate through old age. Purists among them suggest that "opacities" would be a more regular formation. But that has to be rejected, because for six centuries it has had a specialized meaning to describe the act of spoiling or despoiling, that is to say the plunder, looting, rape and associated activities of larger louts like Vikings or Visigoths.

You could well say that "opacities" is a dreadful word. I don't see what's wrong with existing words such as ageing, deterioration or degradation; except, perhaps, that they declare the truth too bluntly. But specialists must be allowed to invent their own jargon. No doubt the world would be a better place, and English a tidier language, if we had a committee of philologists and philosophers who were alone licensed to coin new words, but that is not the way that language works. The French have their *Academie Francaise*, in some matters an influential body, but utterly unimportant in its self-elected task of preserving the purity of the French language, which is as full of Anglicisms, Anglicisms, barbarisms and solecisms as any other language. Ordinary people without licence will carry on invent-

ing words and idioms. The language belongs to them too.

You could try the ultimate put-down by condemning "opacities" as a barbarism, that is a hybrid word made by sticking a suffix or prefix from one language on to a word or stem from another language, as creating a chimera with a Greek head and a Latin tail, such as "ballad-vision". But you would be wrong. "Spoil" is derived by the circuitous route of Old French from the Latin *spoliare*, the skin stripped from an animal, and hence booty, and *spoliare* is despoil. The suffix *-ation* is from Latin, but is now living English. "Opacities" is correctly formed. It just sounds silly.

Your genuine barbarism is a pushmi-pullyu hybrid, whose elements should not go together, and which together make nonsense. "Washeteria" sticks a Spanish ending on to a Teutonic verb, by jocular analogy with cafeteria. Amphibian is derived from Greek words meaning living on both (sc. land and water), triphibian is irregularly derived from it, to mean living on land, on water, and in the air. It is a matronym rather than a barbarism: *tri* is Greek, but for good reason it has taken the *phi* from *amphi*, meaning on both sides. Sir Winston Churchill cheerfully used triphibian to describe Lord Mountbatten.

A "walkathon", "megathon" and such coinages are barbarisms. They take a Teutonic word, walk, and stitch it on to the last two-thirds of Marathon, the place 22 miles north-east of Athens where the Greeks preserved civilization as they knew it by thumping the Persians in 490 BC. "Barbarism" is a barbarism. It takes the French bureau, which comes ultimately from the Latin *barra*, fiery-red (because of the red oiled bases used to cover writing-tables), and tacks on the Greek stem for ruling or ruler, by analogy with aristocrat, despot, plutocrat and barbarian such as "bureaucrat". The analogy of the "eau" sound in bureau with the "o" sound in despot has distorted the pronunciation. Bureaucrat is a useful barbarism expressing an idea that no other word does. A recent library is a barbarism, because library is really meant to be "a book place".

We cannot run English simply to avoid offending the susceptibilities of classical scholars. Many barbarisms are jocular coinages invented by advertising people and journalists to make a splash. They are likely to be ephemeral. I do not see washeteria having a long life, though propriety is dangerous in these (as in most) matters. But where a barbarism fills a gap - like television, cablegram, bureaucrat, electrocution, amoral, apocryphal - it is worth a try. If you don't like the word, you don't have to use them; though I don't see how you avoid *televisions*. I am not sure whether the lemmings' "opacities" is a necessary barbarism. But if they want it, we shall get it.

One in the eye for self-image

He takes out all the gleaming enamelled tubes and the glittering brass fittings and the winking blued lenses, and he begins fitting them together. He takes out the anodized tripod, and he screws its sturdy black rubber feet on, and he spans the bracing struts into place, and he sets it up and fits the telescope to it, and upon the sixth hour he stands back and looks at the work that he has done, and finds it good. He rests from his labours with a large one. He walks around the telescope, so that, from any angle, he may congratulate himself on being the sort of man who can put together a complicated thing like a telescope. And he does not once, during

all this, ask himself if he is the sort of man who looks through them. Even though he has always maintained that there are two sorts of people who look through things, and that the sorts they are determined by the sort of things through which they look. There are binocular men and there are telescope men. Binocular men are extrovert, outdoor, tough, racy, dominant and decisive. In a crisis, the man with binoculars runs his neck puts them to his eyes, comes to an instant conclusion, and acts upon it. He may do this from the top of the Goodwood stands, or from the turret of a Tiger tank, or from just below the South Col of

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the assault on the summit to be made before the weather closes in, or merely if the thing hopping about in his lenses is greater or lesser spotted, determine it he will, because that is what he does. Telescope men, on the other hand, are introvert, indoor, meek, dull, biddable, and dithering. They sit in the loft, with one eye shut, wondering what it is that the other eye is seeing. Is that Betelgeuse? Concorde? A goat on the lens? They entertain theories about black holes and red dwarfs, but with scant conviction. They wonder about how it all started, what it is doing now, and where it will all end; but they will not commit themselves.

Now, into which category have I spent my life intruding? I tell of course. Furthermore, apart from all that, I have never had the slightest interest in the heavens. I am one of those solipsists who, strolling out on to a nocturnal terrace and gazing up at the blackness's billion punctuation points, suddenly has borne in upon him how insignificant they are. I have never recognized any of them from their photographs. I have, of course, long known that there is a collection which looks like a saucer, but on the nights when, for some reason, it hasn't seemed to be there, it has never bothered me in the slightest. But look at me now. This is my

third midnight in the loft. That is a bottle of Volnay. Those are cheddar sandwiches. The big fat book is *The Times Atlas of the Universe*. We are all waiting for things to rise, but the big fat book is the only one who knows what those things are. The rest of us are equally in the dark; although, on reflection, I cannot speak for the cheddar, which is full of bacteria that may have some innate sense regarding star movements. The curious - and unimpressive - thing is that it doesn't matter when I peer through the telescope, the stars are scarcely larger than they are with the naked eye, and yet I cannot stop looking at them. I do not know why this should be. All I know is that I should have preferred not to have taken. I have, probably with everything which this entails, become a telescope man.



1 Pennington Street, London E1 9XN Telephone: 01-782 5000

THE VIEW FROM BERMUDA

The discussions today between the Prime Minister and the President of the United States will focus on the map of Europe, a map which every day changes before their eyes. It is to be a meeting for real work, not choreographed ceremonial. The intention is not that it should produce a Bermuda Accord. The encounter is part of a programme to co-ordinate the Western response to the new challenges to European security, one of the most crucial revisions of world diplomacy since 1945.

Much has been made recently of Mrs Thatcher's declining status in Washington. Her plummeting opinion poll rating is noted. Her rivals within her party and among her Labour opponents have acquired new interest. The poll tax riots and prison uprisings — however transient — have been projected by television news into a metaphor for the whole nation.

To them have been added the Prime Minister's continued reluctance to join various of Western Europe's emerging institutions, and her initial scepticism towards German unity. Since Mrs Thatcher has for the past decade been among the best known and respected of foreign leaders, her stumbles have brought a delicious *schadenfreude* to a capital which loves to put up idols and then topple them.

Yet it is hardly the Prime Minister's fault that Germany has become the inevitable centre of America's European concern. Nor can there be any harm in her often eccentric relationship with President Reagan being replaced with a more businesslike link to his successor. The fluctuations of day-to-day diplomacy should not, therefore, be confused with threats to strategic interest.

The American wooing of Bonn may be mildly embarrassing to Downing Street. But Britain — and Mrs Thatcher's political allies in Europe — will benefit if American support can procure an election victory in Germany for the Christian Democrats over their Social Democrat rivals.

Mr Bush should at least appreciate some of Mrs Thatcher's more lasting qualities of statesmanship. Throughout the euphoria of the past six months, she has constantly had to remind her colleagues abroad that the melting

of the cold war under the heat of counter-revolution means, in the short term, a new volatility in international affairs which, in turn, must generate risks and threats as well as hopes.

In the formation of foreign policy, this President has proved to be unusually reliant on the ideas of overseas leaders rather than colleagues within his own administration — a function of his long experience on the world stage. This can also isolate him from divergent domestic opinions, placing such visitors as Mrs Thatcher in an important position of potential influence.

Mrs Thatcher's is probably the most cautious, conservative mind that Mr Bush is likely to encounter in discussion of European security. She is a long-term thinker. She has a powerful grasp of the nuances of European history, the dangers of resurgent nationalism and the difficulties of delivering grand schemes, particularly of delivering them to short deadlines. In spite of her notorious inability to convey her opinions in a tactful and persuasive fashion to foreigners, she can still bring a dose of common sense to an Administration which sometimes sounds as if it believes that the United States of Europe is just round the corner.

Mrs Thatcher was the first Western leader to recognize the significance of Mr Gorbachov. If she were to warn Mr Bush that too much was now being invested in Mr Gorbachov's survival for too little assured result, then she has a clear right to be heard.

Mrs Thatcher understands power. She understands, contrary to current orthodoxy inside the American State Department, that there is more to the definition of power than wealth, productivity and weapons of war. Power also includes influence by example, the force of moral leadership, the provision of models of government and society which other countries might wish to emulate. In this respect, neither modern Germany nor modern Japan can match the power of the United States and Britain separately and, even more, together.

ALL THE FUN OF THE FAIR

The lads in their hundreds to Ludlow come in for the fair. They did it in Housman's time, and they had done so from the days of Merrie England. Dogdoms came to us from across the Atlantic only in the 1920s, but rope-dancers and contortionists came over with William the Conqueror.

Children of all ages from 9 to 90 will flock to fairgrounds this holiday weekend. They will win worthless prizes, wear hats inviting strangers to kiss them, scream on the Big Dipper and feel horribly unwell on the Wizzer. They can do so in the knowledge that, although it may all be rather foolish, it is a relatively safe way of whiling away an afternoon. Cycling and horse-riding are statistically 10 times more likely to cause them injury than fairs.

So, at least we are told by the Health and Safety Executive on the basis of a survey by, of all people, the Safety and Reliability Directorate of the UK Atomic Energy Authority. However, the British Safety Council is unimpressed. Its director-general, Mr James Tye, described the study as "seriously flawed". Mr Tye said that the findings merely represented the interests of fairground trade associations, such as the Showmen's Guild of Great Britain and the British Association of Leisure Parks, Piers and Attractions. The report, he said, was "a whitewash". Unthinking parents were being lulled into a sense of false security in the run-up to Easter, a traditionally busy time for fairgrounds.

This is the sort of nannying tone to which people in this country have traditionally shown themselves to be deaf. Cakes and ale, the daring young man on the flying trapeze and playing with the gypsies down in the wood all have a deep and immortal attraction.

One day in 1768 a former sergeant-major called Philip Astley climbed on to a horse's back and discovered that if he galloped in a

circle, centrifugal force helped to keep him upright. If the British Safety Council had been there to pursue its lips, he would have been ordered off and the modern circus would not have been born. If it had heard that Charles Blondin was teetering across Niagara Falls on his tightrope on that famous day in 1859, it would have sent him a reproving message by telegraph.

The report offers an assessment of the risks involved in fairground rides, sets out the accident record over a period of years and makes a number of recommendations. There are about 1,000 fairgrounds in operation. In 1987-88 there were four fatalities and 45 major injuries, a figure significantly higher than in previous years. These divided almost equally between accidents at permanent sites and travelling fairs, and the single most common cause was falls or "ejection from moving parts".

On the other hand, statistics show that the total of Cyclone Twist rides per year is of the order of 50 million. The report makes a number of sensible suggestions about safety checks on older rides and about the need for care in reassembly. Fairground workers have greeted the idea of operator and attendant training with some scepticism. "We're the only people who know how the machines work, anyway", one man said. "I know them like my wife".

The report also says that the chief danger at British fairgrounds is not from the machinery but from the public. No nightmare ride is as terrifying as a gang of hooligans, full of alcohol and screaming for a fight of the sort that makes many country fairs uninviting for families, particularly after dark. But even this may not be so new. As Housman noted at Ludlow, "The lads for the girls and the lads for the liquor are there". The British Safety Council may have to broaden its definition of consumer interest.

STRICTLY FOR THE BIRDS

We are second to none in our admiration for Italy and its people, a nation which has come to terms with the modern world while never forgetting that life is to be enjoyed, and which, if the claims of the modern world clash with the enjoyment, unhesitatingly puts *la dolce vita* first. But the latest news from Rome is ominous; a little cloud, like a man's hand, hovers over both modern life and enjoyment. It's the pigeons, you see.

The Trevi Fountain is one of the best known and best loved of all Rome's sights. More, the obligatory practice of turning your back on it and throwing three coins over your shoulder into the water (the sacrifice ensures that you will come to Rome again), is a delightful tradition, which has endured for very many years. But some bureaucrats (we never knew that Italy had bureaucrats — we thought they had all been executed along with Savonarola) has decreed that the Fountain, the tourists and the pigeons do not mix. And since the Fountain and the tourists are essential, the pigeons have drawn the short worm. Beginning in the autumn, the Fountain and its surrounds are to be electrified; wires carrying a mild charge — not enough to give the visitors a shock, but enough to cause discomfort to a pigeon — will bestrew the area. Switch on; wait a day or two till the word gets about among the feathered, and a long-standing nuisance has ended for ever.

Oh, no, it hasn't. We make so bold as to prophesy that three months after the plan has been put into execution — three months is a reasonable time for the test — the score will be Pigeons 10, Rome 0.

In the first place, the machinery will not work. In the second place, rumours will get

about — we do not ourselves assert that the pigeons will be spreading them, but *cui bono?* — that an American visitor fell in and was instantly electrocuted. In the third place, the pigeons have been around much longer than Rome, and have learnt a thing or two in that time.

They will instantly acquire the skill of taking corn on the wing. They will become adept at landing on a cigarette-packet (cardboard is a very poor conductor). They will perch on the visitors' shoulders (they do so already). They will go to school to the bats, and learn how to avoid obstacles such as wires. They will drive away the electricians in charge by repeated dive-bombings. They will form an alliance with the rats, themselves long possessed of the technique of chewing through electrified wires without coming to harm. They will speed up evolution and begin to hatch double-insulated chicks. They will do a thousand and three things that we cannot even imagine. But they will go away.

How can we be so sure? Because we have been through it all in Trafalgar Square. London, too, has suffered from the same affliction; our pigeons are as headless as Rome's when it comes to table-manners and the other niceties. Nor can Rome take comfort in the thought that all she has to do is to ban the corn-sellers; we tried that, too, and all that happened was that the pigeons brought their packed lunches and thumbed their claws at the National Gallery. Indeed, the trouble got to such a pitch that in desperation somebody seriously proposed covering Nelson's plinth with glue. Rome: cut your losses and give in. Or use the money in the fountain to bribe the pigeons to go to Venice.

Danger of arms talks collapse

From Mr Frank Allan
Sir, Peter Stubbard's report from Washington (April 10) presents the danger that the vital talks on nuclear and conventional arms this summer may be stymied. Unless Mr Gorbachov accepts the mess his country is in, the Americans suggested, he "would be out in the cold". Does this mean that Washington will require further Soviet concessions whilst the West would give little in return?

Consider Mr Gorbachov's remarkable record since 1985. The 18-months unilateral ban on nuclear test explosions, still on offer but so far rejected, for example. Or the unconditional demobilisation of 50,000 servicemen, 8,000 tanks and 800 aircraft under command at Ottawa on the cut of US and Soviet forces to 195,000, which means a far greater reduction on the latter side, even though admittedly their existing land forces were bigger.

Even on the Nato proposal that a united Germany should be neutral the Soviet Foreign Secretary was prepared to give way, whilst standing firm against moves that the whole of Germany be included in Nato. What more could his country be expected to do?

In view of the way Washington has capitalised on the Soviet Union's economic weakness and its nationalities problem it is not surprising that difficulties are now arising. The American Administration has squeezed till the pips squeak, as was once said in another connection. There is still no response by Washington to the Soviet call for ending nuclear test explosions (the best way to prevent the bomb spreading to new nations). It is, however, some relief that the summit talks have been brought forward and will last five days.

It seems to me that the one thing which guarantees that Mr Gorbachov is really determined on huge military reductions is his belief that nuclear and the latest conventional arms are now so devastating that they cannot be used and that economic considerations on both sides demand that tanks be turned into tractors. The peoples of the Nato countries should use their influence on their governments to see that the negotiations succeed.

Yours sincerely,
FRANK ALLAN,
11 Eastleigh Road,
Manchester 25,
April 11.

Embryo research

From Mr Nigel Williams
Sir, Your leading article today (April 5) on the kidneys for sale case was entirely right in supporting Parliament's outlawing of payment being made for organ donation. I am somewhat perplexed that the Department of Health has not reached the same conclusion in relation to the donation of human sperm, eggs or embryos.

Clause 12(e) of the Human Fertilisation and Embryology Bill gives a second reading in the House of Commons on April 2, allows directions to specify "the money or other benefit received... in respect of any supply of gametes or embryos". If research is sanctioned, where will scientists and doctors obtain the presumably very large number of human embryos they need for research?

I can see that there is little problem in obtaining the necessary sperm, but ova are a different matter. My understanding is that women normally

Coping with conflict in prisons

From the Principal of Brasenose College, Oxford

Sir, A connecting thread between the disorders in Manchester and Bristol has been the presence of so many remand prisoners in local jails. For several years between 20 and 25 per cent of the total prison population has been made up of persons charged with criminal offences who are awaiting trial. It is wrong in principle, and disastrous in practice, that they should be subject to the same or worse conditions as sentenced prisoners who have been deprived of their liberty as punishment.

The justification for pre-trial detention is preventive, not punitive. Since the Bail Act 1976 all accused, but unconvicted, persons have a right to bail unless there is a likelihood that they will fail to attend their trial, or commit offences in the intervening period, or seek to interfere with witnesses or jurors. These are legitimate objectives of criminal justice, but they are entirely distinct from imprisonment as punishment.

The consequence of sending remand prisoners to the same establishments as convicted and sentenced prisoners has been to get the worst of both worlds. Local prisons become more and more overcrowded, causing physical conditions to deteriorate still further. Extra burdens of escorting remand prisoners to and from court, and supervising an entitlement to daily visits, can only be met by prison officers neglecting their responsibilities towards the work and exercise of sentenced prisoners.

What is called for is the diversion of part of the financial resources currently allocated to the building and refurbishing of high and medium-security prisons towards lower-security units designed exclusively for the containment of accused persons who are remanded in custody.

The new remand units (NRUs), and the escorting of pre-trial detainees to and from court, should be separated from the prison service which, relieved of such a substantial part of the prison population, would be free to concentrate upon the urgent, but attainable, task of providing proper conditions and regimes for sentenced prisoners.

If the only practicable way of achieving this result is by contracting out new remand centres and escort and court custody services, under Home Office supervision, it should not be shirked.

Yours faithfully,
WINDLESHAM (Chairman,
Parole Board, 1982-88),
Brasenose College, Oxford,
April 11.

produce only one egg each menstrual cycle, unless they receive treatment involving super ovulatory drugs. Not all *in vitro* fertilisation (IVF) clinics use such drugs and the possible side effects have not yet been fully identified.

It would be helpful if those clinics undertaking research could clarify whether they offer any incentive to women who agree to super-ovulation — e.g. priority in getting IVF treatment or a lower cost.

Furthermore, it has been reported that women undergoing sterilisation are offered the chance to donate ova. This would involve medically unnecessary administration of drugs and I would have thought was bad medicine. Are such women, too, offered incentives to donate eggs? Is this really ethical?

Yours sincerely,
NIGEL WILLIAMS
(Campaigns Director),
Care (Christian Action Research and Education),
53 Romney Street, SW1,
April 5.

Health group links

From Miss Barbara S. Young
Sir, You report the hostile verdict on health authority mergers published by the Greater London Association of Community Health Councils (early editions, March 28). May I give a different view.

Parkside Health Authority was created by merger two years ago, with a primary aim being to bring together under one health authority the services for the people of Brent and Paddington and North Kensington, who to a large extent were already sharing the hospital services run by two authorities. Far from happening without "any strategic approach" the merger took three years to plan.

But perhaps its most notable success has been a positive drive over the last two years to explain

Recruiting scientists

From Professor M. J. Perkins
Sir, Mr D. B. L. George (April 4) expresses concern over the closure of the chemistry department at Royal Holloway and Bedford New College. There is an even greater cause for concern. The Government expects increasing student numbers in tertiary education in the late 1990s and seeks an overall shift towards the sciences. Science staff in our universities are growing old together. In chemistry, a disturbingly high proportion of the small numbers of young quality recruits to the profession soon leave for posts overseas or in British industry.

The only way that the universities might cope with the expected growth in student population is by concentrating on very large departments in which student/staff ratios much higher

the role and work of the new authority to its local customers and to hear in turn, their views. We have conducted a number of exercises to communicate positively with our consumers on both general and particular interests with newsletters, mail shots, exhibitions, public meetings and questionnaires and have been commended by members of the public for the efforts we have made.

We value this praise and intend to continue to show that size does not hinder Parkside Health Authority from relating well to the 380,000 residents for whom we provide health care.

Yours sincerely,
BARBARA S. YOUNG
(District General Manager),
Parkside Health Authority,
16 South Wharf Road, W2.

Not all Rule 43 prisoners are sex offenders. Quite a lot are people who have got themselves into debt with the so-called "barons" and cannot pay their dues. Others are people who are not equipped, mentally or physically, to cope with life in prison. Prisoners are sometimes the cruellest people imaginable. Prison is very much like a jungle: the strongest, the fittest, and the most cunning survive.

In any institution leaders will emerge and lesser mortals will be attracted to them. Hence gangs form, creating the sub-culture of which your article speaks. Staff do their best to suppress it, but as one "heavy" is taken out of circulation another is waiting to step in.

Prisoners are allowed newspapers and they also receive visits from people who read papers, so they get a lot of information about other prisoners' cases without having to rely on prison officers to tell them what is going on.

It is also a tragic fact that once a prisoner has been on Rule 43, for whatever reason, he or she is branded by the remainder of the prison population and, in most cases, can never be anything but a Rule 43, no matter how many times he or she returns to prison.

I have been a prison officer for 21 years and am proud to be one, although it is a difficult and dangerous job. I now teach new entrants the arts of being a prison officer. The training course is largely centred on dealing with people, equally and with humanity.

Yours faithfully,
JEFFREY R. BRIGGS,
HM Prison Service College,
Alford Road,
Wakefield, West Yorkshire.

From Mr A. H. Durward
Sir, Given that much of the publicity achieved and damage caused during prison riots occurs on the roofs, and assuming that the authorities are not prepared to use high-powered water hoses in order to discourage rooftop protesters, is it not possible for Government scientists to develop a liquid which could be sprayed, perhaps from a helicopter, to cover roof surfaces and protesters alike with a slippery, chill-inducing film?

Yours sincerely,
ALAN DURWARD,
17 Springhaven Close,
Guildford, Surrey.

Rate for the job?

From Mr T. C. Ramsden
Sir, Mr David Watt (April 7) leaves me confused. He declares that teachers should not try to calculate their pay by the hour if they are to be regarded as professionals. He instances accountants and solicitors as examples of professionals — both of whom, in my experience, charge by the hour.

There is only one reason why teachers should not work out an hourly rate. At an average of 50 hours a week, and assuming (incorrectly) they only work 40 weeks a year, teachers would discover and be able to demonstrate publicly the urgent need for a massive pay increase. At, say, £10 this would yield an average salary of £20,000 — and every new pay-increasing initiative would have to be costed in terms of cash as well as the very real cost on teachers' morale.

Yours faithfully,
T. C. RAMSDEN,
3 Ivester Court, Wing Road,
Leighton Buzzard,
Bedfordshire.

the role and work of the new authority to its local customers and to hear in turn, their views. We have conducted a number of exercises to communicate positively with our consumers on both general and particular interests with newsletters, mail shots, exhibitions, public meetings and questionnaires and have been commended by members of the public for the efforts we have made.

We value this praise and intend to continue to show that size does not hinder Parkside Health Authority from relating well to the 380,000 residents for whom we provide health care.

Yours sincerely,
BARBARA S. YOUNG
(District General Manager),
Parkside Health Authority,
16 South Wharf Road, W2.

than the present norm might reasonably be accommodated. But how much talent which currently flowers in the caring departments such as ours would be stifled in such environments?

To make matters worse, the current upheavals in school science education, not to mention comparability with Europe, will soon require that the physical sciences will have to follow engineering into a pattern of four-year first-degree courses.

Yours faithfully,
JOHN PERKINS,
Royal Holloway and Bedford New College,
Department of Chemistry,
Egham Hill, Egham, Surrey.

Letters to the Editor should carry a daytime telephone number. They may be sent to a fax number — (01)782 5046.

Church and State in new Europe

From Canon G. B. Beuley
Sir, It is hard to believe that the Bishop of Durham described the legal establishment of the Church of England as a hangover from the Middle Ages, although that is the impression left by Mr Longley's report of April 4. Establishment was of course the offspring of Tudor nationalism, which had nothing medieval about it.

At present nationalism's future is uncertain. While in Eastern Europe it is flexing its muscles, in the West the attempt to eliminate its divisive properties is threatened by megalomania in Brussels and by the possible emergence of a nationalistic Germany. If it succeeds, the West will have gone back to the cosmopolitanism of the Middle Ages.

In that event a two-province national Church going its own way without reference to the Church on the Continent will be hopelessly out of date. Canterbury and York will need to be part of a cosmopolitan Church in a cosmopolitan society — which means in practice being once more linked with Rome.

Only when such a link with the Church outside England has been forged will the Church of England be equipped to deal with disestablishment. At present the prop of establishment is necessary to it. As things now stand there is a hope, albeit faint, that Parliament may block the more outrageous measures of that unconscionable body, the General Synod, whereas disestablishment would presumably leave the Church entirely to the synod's mercy.

The really frightening thing is that the synod may continue its work of sabotaging *rapprochement* with Rome, pressing prematurely ahead with the priesting of women (which has already done much damage) and perhaps drawing up an order for the solemnization of buggery. Can no one restrain its penchant for doing harm?

Unlike the Bishop of Durham, I hope that the anointing of sovereigns will continue even after disestablishment; for despite widespread apostasy and the immigration of other religions, this is still a Christian country in the sense that its development was moulded by Christianity. To that the connection of the Sovereign bears witness.

Yours faithfully,
G. B. BEULEY,
5 The Cloisters,
Windsor Castle,
Berkshire.

Hong Kong exodus

From Mr John L. Marshall, MP for Hendon South (Conservative)
Sir, Having recently returned from Hong Kong I should like to support Lord Wyatt's views on the Hong Kong Bill ("Think again, Mr Tebbit", April 10). Whatever arguments may have prevailed before the Bill's publication, its defeat would have a traumatic effect upon sentiment in Hong Kong. The current exodus of skilled people could become a torrent if Britain were to renege on its Government's commitment.

Hong Kong is more than a place; it is a way of life. If the passport holders are assured of a foothold in the event of the situation deteriorating after 1997 they will not want to leave now. The reason that citizens of Hong Kong have left for Canada and Australia is simple; their passports are dependent on a three-year residential qualification.

On the Hong Kong Bill the paths of interest and honour coincide. It would be a tragedy if it were defeated by a combination of chauvinistic racism or naked political opportunism.

Yours faithfully,
JOHN L. MARSHALL,
House of Commons,
April 11.

Eng Lit set books

From the Chairman of the School Examinations and Assessment Council
Sir, Your report (April 6) could imply that the School Examinations and Assessment Council has decided that there is no justification for retaining a separate GCSE examination in English Literature. This is not so.

The council has issued, for consultation purposes, draft revised GCSE criteria for English mathematics and science, as a step towards bringing the GCSE in line with the National Curriculum. That is because the statutory attainment targets and programmes of study issued by the Department of Education and Science for those subjects apply from 1992 for pupils starting GCSE courses in that year. The council has not decided whether the existing English literature criteria should be revised.

Yours faithfully,
PHILIP HALSEY, Chairman and Chief Executive,
School Examinations and Assessment Council,
Newcombe House,
45 Notting Hill Gate, W11,
April 10.

Easter message

From Mr John Deam
Sir, A leader from the local supermarket contains the advice that on Good Friday alcoholic drinks can only be sold from 12 noon to 3 p.m.

Yours faithfully,
J. H. DEAM,
94 Northover Road,
Westbury on Trym,
Bristol, Avon,
April 9.



COURT CIRCULAR

BUCKINGHAM PALACE

April 12: The Queen and The Duke of Edinburgh visited Newcastle upon Tyne today and were received by Her Majesty's Lord-Lieutenant for Tyne and Wear (Sir Ralph Carr-Ellison).

Her Majesty and His Royal Highness attended the Maundy Service at the Cathedral Church of St Nicholas, where The Queen distributed the Royal Maundy, and subsequently attended a reception in Cathedral Hall.

The Queen and The Duke of Edinburgh were received by the Bishop of Newcastle (the Right Reverend A. K. Graham) and the Provost of Newcastle (the Very Reverend N. G. Coulton).

Afterwards The Queen, with The Duke of Edinburgh, honoured the Lord Mayor of the City of Newcastle (Councillor T. Cooney) with her presence at luncheon at the Civic Centre.

This afternoon The Queen opened the Royal Suite at Heathrow Airport, London and

was received by Her Majesty's Lord-Lieutenant for Greater London (Field Marshal the Lord Bramhall) and Sir Norman Payne (Chairman of BAA plc).

Her Majesty toured the Suite and unveiled a commemorative plaque.

The Lady Farnham, the Right Hon Sir William Heseltine and Wing Commander David Walker, RAF, were in attendance.

The Duke of Edinburgh, Patron, this afternoon visited the Royal Northumberland Yacht Club, Blyth.

His Royal Highness was received by Her Majesty's Lord-Lieutenant for Northumberland (the Viscount Ridley) and Mr Bruce Grant (Commander).

The Princess Royal, President, Royal Yachting Association, this afternoon visited the Children's Optimist Course, Paperport Sailing Club, and was received by Her Majesty's Lord-Lieutenant for Surrey (Mr Richard Thornton).

Shedding new light on ship burials

By Norman Hammond, Archaeology Correspondent

SHIP burials have long been thought of as the privilege of Anglo-Saxon nobility, a notion reinforced by the rich treasure found in the Sutton Hoo found in 1939. A recent discovery a few miles away from that site suggests a different answer, however: that boats were buried with the adherents of particular pagan deities.

The suggestion comes from Mr William Filmer-Sankey of Oxford University, who recently excavated a boat burial at Snape, Suffolk, close to the site of the Aldeburgh Festival and only 10 miles from Sutton Hoo.

"It is less magnificent than the Sutton Hoo burial, more a dinghy than a ship," he says in *Current Archaeology*. "But why should an otherwise ordinary burial have been made in a ship?"

"Ship" is perhaps an exaggeration: Mr Filmer-Sankey's excavations showed it to have been a log canoe, just over 3 metres (10ft) long and 70 centimetres (2ft) wide. The body had dissolved in the acid sandy soil, leaving only a stain, and the grave goods were few, including an iron knife and the buckle and stud from a belt.

There were also a pair of cow's horns, of which the tips survived together with sufficient traces to show that they were about a foot long. Mr Filmer-Sankey believes that they were drinking horns, something only otherwise found in rich Anglo-Saxon graves.

The Snape burial thus contradicts in every way previous finds. Mr Filmer-Sankey says. It is a tiny canoe instead of a magnificent ship, has a mixture of humble personal possessions and high-status items — the horns — and finds its best parallels not with the great Swedish boat-grave cemeteries but

with earlier Iron Age logboat graves on the Baltic island of Bornholm.

Why, he asks, in an area where many people must have owned small boats, did only a few of them finish up covering or filling graves?

He suggests that the solution proposed for the Stukebury graves on Bornholm also applies at Snape: the burial in a boat symbolized adherence to a specific family of pagan German deities, one of whom in Viking times owned the magic ship *Skidbladnir*.

The wider implication of this, Mr Filmer-Sankey proposes, is that variation in burial rites may indicate polytheistic differences in religious beliefs, rather than different social layers in Anglo-Saxon society, as many scholars have hitherto supposed.

Source: *Current Archaeology* 118: 348-352.

Briton wins Erasmus prize

Amsterdam

BRITISH archaeologist Professor John Graham Clark has been awarded the \$100,000 Erasmus prize for 1990, the Netherlands foundation announced yesterday.

He won it for his fundamental contribution to theoretical thinking within European prehistory.

Professor Clark, aged 82, was educated at Cambridge University where he has pursued his entire career. After the Second World War he was made the university's Disney Professor of Archaeology and Ethnology.

The Erasmus prize is awarded annually to a person or an institution that has made an exceptional contribution to European culture, society or social science.

(AFP)

IVAR LO-JOHANSSON



Ivar Lo-Johansson, the reforming Swedish novelist, essayist, and autobiographer, has died aged 89 on April 11. He was born on February 23, 1901.

He produced one of the most sheerly imposing, even Dickensian, bodies of work in 20th-century Scandinavian literature. He might easily have shared the 1974 Nobel Prize for Literature (the "Swedish version") with his contemporary, Harry Martinson. In the event another contemporary shared the award, but this was simply because the committee felt that Eyvind Johnson had made more gestures towards the modernism they favoured. Also Lo-Johansson had not hidden his contempt for certain Swedish literary luminaries in his book, *Författaren*.

Few writers have contributed more to their country's culture in the widest sense.

As perhaps befits what is usually taken to be the paradigm of the European welfare state, the tradition of auto-didactic, proletarian literature is very strong in Swedish letters: not only Johnson but also Jan Fridegård, with whom Lo-Johansson was closely associated, and Villem Moburg — all of them major Swedish writers — came from very poor backgrounds.

Ivar Lo-Johansson was born in Ösma, near Stockholm, and his father (like Fridegård's) was of the class of *statlare*, farm labourers receiving not money, but payment in kind. Ivar had very rough beginnings, and performed many menial tasks before he was able to establish himself, around about his 30th year, as a travel writer, short story writer, and poet. He had given himself an impressive education in the toughest school of all, and like many Scandinavians before him — Knut Hamsun is the outstanding example — he picked up most of his wide knowledge

and understanding from extensive travel abroad.

It was Lo-Johansson who, in a massive series of novels, drew epic attention to the grim situation of the share croppers, and who certainly deeply influenced the humane direction Swedish politics took thereafter.

Godnatt, Jord (1933), (*Good Night, Earth*), and his successors, have rightly been compared with Steinbeck's *The Grapes of Wrath* in their capacity to depict the lives of the oppressed and thus, sometimes, almost sub-human. Another parallel is to be found in the American Erskine Caldwell's novels about the share croppers of Georgia.

The opportunity to translate Lo-Johansson's series of novels into English is certainly one that has so far been missed. Only *Lyckan* (1962) (*Bodies of Love*, 1973), is available in English, but this

book is about the circumstances in which mature love may operate, and, although an excellent example of Lo-Johansson in his psycho-sexual vein, is not representative of his main body of work with its savage thrust towards reform.

Goodnight, Earth was followed by *Stjärna i H-T* (1936-7), (*The Share Cropper*) and *Jordproletären* (1941) (*Proletarians Of The Earth*).

In *Kungsgatan* (1935), (*King's Street*), he dealt quite as masterfully with "the lower decks" of Stockholm as seen by a couple of naive farm lads. This, with its bleak account of prostitution, shocked many readers by its extreme candour.

In 1939 Lo-Johansson published the novel that most critics regard as his masterpiece: *Bara en mor* (*Only A Mother*). In this tale of the share cropper woman Rya-

Rya, he displayed qualities not too often found in Swedish fiction: tautness and humour.

Lo-Johansson afterwards embarked upon a series of autobiographical novels, quieter in tone than the furious early work, with *Andalsen* (1951) (*The Illiterate*), a deeply-felt tribute to his father, who struggled to maintain his individuality and independence in almost impossible circumstances. It is to this autobiographical series that *Lyckan* belongs.

Others works include *Gårdförhållanden* (1953) (*The Peasants*), and *Författaren* (1956) (*The Writer*), the last about the Swedish literary scene of the 1930s. This body of work, while necessarily uneven, is staggering in its meticulous attention to detail, its sincerity, pragmatism, and commitment to decency and justice.

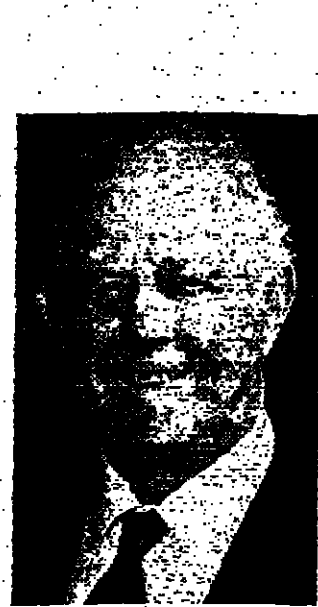
The non-fiction *Älders-Sverige* (1953), (*Sweden For The Aged*), led to reforms to old people's homes. *Elektra* (1967) is a science-fiction fantasy satirising — though in a good-natured manner — unpleasant technological developments of the future.

Lo-Johansson also wrote a series of novels devoted to particular vices, for example, *Girgubarna* (1969), (*The Misery*), and *Lögalsarna* (1971), (*The Liars*). His indignation at corruption never diminished, and he was always a stern critic of it.

In extreme old age Lo-Johansson remained almost as prolific as he had always been. *Faberia* (1978), (*Fabery*), being the first volume of a series of non-fiction memoirs.

In his long life of struggle for justice, he produced many pamphlets of a philosophical nature, demonstrating that he was no naive protester but a profound man capable of producing, at his best, great imaginative art. His international reputation has yet to come.

PETER WRIGHT, VC



Peter Wright, VC, farmer and Coldstream Guardsman, died aged 73 on April 5, 1990. He was born on August 10, 1916.

King George VI's intervention made sure Wright was awarded the VC for his bravery. Wright had received the DCM (Distinguished Conduct Medal) from the King who was not, however, satisfied that award was sufficient, so when visiting Italy he asked General Alexander to have another look at the facts and inform him personally of the outcome. The DCM was cancelled and the VC awarded instead.

A painting by Peter Archer of the action hangs in the Wellington Barracks. The courage it depicts came near Salerno on September 25, 1943, when Wright was a company sergeant major with the 3rd Battalion of the Coldstream Guards. The Germans, faced with the allied landing on September 9, attacked after putting in five divisions as a barrier.

Fighting back in the counter-attack, Wright's battalion met heavy machine gun and mortar fire as it assaulted a wooded hill and all the officers in the right hand company were killed or wounded trying to reach the crest.

So Wright took charge, stole forward and found three heavy machine guns holding up the Guards' attack. Having positioned a section to give covering fire, he made a one-man advance, knocking out each machine gun post with grenades and bayonet.

His persistence took him on to the crest with his company but when enemy fire made their position untenable he went to reach the objective via a different route.

The citation reads: "Entirely regardless of enemy fire, which was very heavy, CSM Wright then reorganised what was left of the company and deployed it to consolidate the position. Soon afterwards the

enemy launched a counter-attack which was successfully beaten off.

"Later, with complete disregard of heavy enemy shell-fire on the area of company headquarters and the reverse slopes of the hill and of machine-gun fire from the commanding slopes on the left flank of the position, he brought up extra ammunition and distributed it to the company."

"It is due to this Warrant Officer's superb disregard of the enemy's fire, his magnificent leadership, and his outstanding heroism throughout the action that his battalion succeeded in capturing and maintaining its hold on this very important objective."

Born at Mettingham, Suffolk, Peter Harold Wright went to work on his father's farm until he enlisted in 1936 at the age of 20 in the Coldstream Guards. Back in England after his wartime service in Italy he was posted to a training battalion, which also involved guarding Winston Churchill at Chequers.

Wright farmed near Stowmarket in Suffolk until his death. He was always prominent in the farming life of the county and highly regarded.

He is survived by his wife, a son and two daughters.

ANTONY JENNINGS

Bernard Antony ("Tony") Jennings, the BBC's Legal Adviser from 1977 until ill-health forced him to retire last year, died aged 50 on April 10. He was born on May 29, 1939.

Only a few months before retirement Jennings had been re-elected by overwhelming vote to a further term as Chairman of the Legal Committee of the European Broadcasting Union.

Though he would never himself have claimed credit, he did indefatigable work in steering through a re-assessment and re-affirmation of the EBU of its values and public recognition of its achievements. With Dr Albert Scharf, of West Germany, as its President and Jennings at the head of its Legal Committee, the EBU was well-served in its lawyers.

Jennings' potential had been recognised early in his BBC career. After an initial period as a member of the BBC Solicitor's Department, advising journalists and programme makers on defamation, contempt of court, official secrets legislation and the other inhibitions on freedom of expression and information, he was appointed to succeed in 1974 as Head of Copyright at the age of 34.

He added to his repertoire the skills required of a lawyer looking after the BBC's "show business" operations. His talents as a negotiator of agreements, in a decade when the BBC's strained financial circumstances often gave him almost no room for manoeuvre, ensured he would thereafter be in constant demand when the big deals were to be done. In

1977 he was clearly the right person to appoint as the BBC's Legal Adviser.

The BBC's legal agenda was to be a long one. What was the validity of the Sinn Féin ban? What did the Home Secretary's Notice actually mean? Could the BBC challenge the warrants documents the police produced when they arrived at BBC Scotland to take away the Zircon tapes? What would be left of the BBC's Charter independence if the SDP succeeded in its court attack on the BBC's allocation of election broadcasting time? These were among the constitutional questions raised during his tenure.

Alongside them ran major litigation that called for legal management of a high order: over the Legionnaire's Disease outbreak, for example.

The BBC's business agenda was also lengthening. There were agreements to reach with the Performing Rights Society and Phonographic Performance Limited: he led these negotiations. The archives needed to be opened up for exploitation: Equity and the Musicians' Union had to be persuaded to agree. The Monopolies and Mergers Commission investigated the BBC's control of its programme listings: Jennings argued the BBC's case.

In 1979 BBC Enterprises was established as a commercial operation, with all the complex deal-making that that entailed.

He was accompanied during his last illness by Dr Salvatore Santagati, with whom he had shared many happy years of his life.

JOHN TURNER

John Stanleigh Turner, who was a leading figure in the development of Britain's coal and aggregate industries, has died at the age of 91. He was born on July 4, 1898.

In the industry in pre-nationalisation days, he held colliery managing directorships and was president of various coal fuel research and utilisation bodies.

During the Second World War he was a member of the British Industrial Delegation to the United States and Canada and of the National Arbitration Tribunal. Turner was Vice-President of the Mining Association of Great Britain from 1943-46 and Deputy Chairman of the East Midlands Division of the National Coal Board from 1946-49.

Born in Donisthorpe, near

Barton on Trent, he was the elder son of Sir John Turner, a working colliery manager who had built up the South Derbyshire business of the Moira Colliery. He was educated at Repton and was commissioned and wounded in the First World War.

In 1950 he became Managing Director of Trent Gravel (now a subsidiary of RMC Group) and later chairman. His association with the extractive industry grew to encompass ready-mixed concrete and, during 1967-68, he was Chairman of the British Ready Mixed Concrete Association. From 1968 till 1988 he served successively as Chairman and then President of the Sand & Gravel Association.

His wife, Ann, died in 1981; he is survived by one son.

Memorial service

Miss M.A. Sadler

A service of thanksgiving for the life of Miss Margaret Anne Sadler (Mrs John Parry) was held yesterday at St Martin-in-the-Fields.

The Rev John Pridmore officiated. Mr Richard Sadler and Mr Robert Sadler, brother, read the lessons. Mr Tom Sadler, brother, Miss Lindsay Davis, Miss Jane Mischon, S.G. Associates, Mr Geoffrey Bell and Mr John Parry, husband, paid tribute.

Church news

The Ven Trevor Nash, Archbishop of Basingstoke, to be executive coordinator of the bishops' advisers programme, Acon Christian Healing Trust, in the autumn. He will work with the trust's co-founder, the Right Rev Morris Madocks, on the healing ministry.

Church of Scotland Ordinations and Inductions The Rev Alan J. McCulloch, to Kilmar and Stenoch.

Retirements The Rev Richard P. Sanders, 85, Assistant Minister at Andrews and St George's, Edinburgh; Rev John W.

Craig, St Stephen's Comedy Bank, Edinburgh; Rev John W. Craig, St Stephen's Comedy Bank, Edinburgh; Rev John W. Craig, St Stephen's Comedy Bank, Edinburgh.

Translations The Rev John P. Sanders, 85, Assistant Minister at Andrews and St George's, Edinburgh; Rev John W. Craig, St Stephen's Comedy Bank, Edinburgh; Rev John W. Craig, St Stephen's Comedy Bank, Edinburgh.

Church of Scotland Ordinations and Inductions The Rev Alan J. McCulloch, to Kilmar and Stenoch.

Retirements The Rev Richard P. Sanders, 85, Assistant Minister at Andrews and St George's, Edinburgh; Rev John W.

Latest wills

Professor Edward Michael Darnley, of Compton, Chichester, West Sussex, Emeritus Consultant Pathologist to Portsmouth and Isle of Wight Pathology Service and Emeritus Clinical Professor of Pathology at Southampton University, who built the first renal dialysis machine in Britain in 1945, using part of the exhaust from a Spitfire for the central core and cellophane tubing for the membranes, left estate valued at £106,638 net.

Miss Margaret Prudence Dwyer, of Black Lane, Cross in Hand, East Sussex, left estate valued at £1,353,595 net. She left her estate to her relatives.

Mr James Jerram Briggs, of Palace Gate, London W8, left estate valued at £944,442 net. His four children and his wife left £200,000 to Mr and Mrs A. Santos in addition to any wages due at his death; a piece of furniture and 122 parts of the residue to other persons; legacies of 63 parts of the residue for charitable purposes and in such proportions as his trustees shall determine within two years of his death; and four parts of the residue to Royal St George's Golf Club, Sandwich, Kent.

Mr Walter Thomas Skiers, of

Weybridge, Surrey, left estate valued at £1,135,202 net.

Mrs Kathleen Elsie Price, of Ammer Road, Charnworth, Doncaster, left estate valued at £161,233 net. She left a personal legacy of £500 and the residue equally between the RNLI and Cancer Research Campaign.

Other estates include (net before tax paid): Mr Thomas Oswald Ashton, of Wivenhoe, Essex, £460,859; Mrs Stella Bridge, of Emsbourne, East Sussex, £627,162; Mr Reginald Arthur Brough, of Northampton on the Wolds, Northants, £721,163.

Mr Roy Blackett Charlton, of Northumberland, £550,445; Mrs Elizabeth Jill Frank, of London N6, £524,073; Mr John Joseph Harrison, of Finchampstead, Berks, £481,523; Mr Richard Henry Hobson, of Rotherham, South Yorkshire, £667,914; Mrs Phyllis Judith Kasper, of London N6, £425,841; Mr David Christopher Leeming, of Marry, Worthy, Hants, £591,283; Mr Victor Edward Lister, of Maidenhead, Berks, £468,974.

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A French lesson in flair and adventure

John Russell Taylor
reports from Paris
on a series of
exhibitions that
could not come here

Are the French really more cultivated than we are, or is it merely that there is more money available for culture in Paris? Either way, one tries in vain to imagine any of the current shows in Paris, major or minor, comfortably ensconced in some London gallery.

Consider, for example, the Filonov retrospective (Centre Pompidou, to April 30). There is no doubt that Filonov was an important figure in Russian art of the early 20th century, but in Russia itself he was isolated and not widely understood, even before his fall from political grace in the late Twenties.

This show was a revelation when I saw it in Leningrad 18 months ago, and is almost as surprising now. But where else in the West, other than at the Centre Pompidou, could one see such an ambitious show (50 paintings and 150 drawings, virtually all of Filonov's surviving work) devoted to a dead foreign painter hardly anyone has heard of?

The work itself, with its frantic multiplication of images, is difficult to describe: it is not really like anything else. Filonov (born 1883) simultaneously embraced Cubism and Symbolism. His images are fragmented in a way loosely suggestive of the Cubists, but without much reference to external reality: rather, he creates a world of allusions in which the coloured segments break up the mother's face to imply tears, or the

human figures are multiplied like the ranks of saints in an icon, or abstracted until they look like maps of an unknown country. It is not clear what the French make of Filonov, but how wonderful to have the chance to see it.

At least Tony Garnier, subject of a gigantic show staged by the Centre de la Création Industrielle downstairs at Beaubourg until May 21, was a French architect, and one who could prove especially sympathetic to present preoccupations because of his Utopian ideas on the integration of industry into the natural landscape.

It would seem that he found little for his comfort after 1918 he concentrated largely on projects connected with death, mostly unbuilt. But even at his liveliest, his dream cities seem more neopolitain than metropolitan, inhabiting a world where it is always very late afternoon. And again, one wonders where in London a comparable show could be put on: the CCI has the advantage of an inclusive brief and large galleries always at its disposal, unlike, say, the RIBA.

Nor can one imagine in London either of the shows which appear, in different ways, to be paying tribute to this era of deconstruction. At the Louvre it is the pictures which are taken apart, in Polyptyques (to July 23). At the Musée d'Orsay the body itself, in Le Corps en Morceaux (to June 3).

Both shows propose interesting and curious themes, at a time when theme shows are widely assumed to be box-office poison; they could be staged only where the number of paying customers is a minor consideration. But perhaps the French are more cultivated after all — large numbers of people seem to be paying the price to discover the extraordinary uses to which artists through the ages have put portions of the human body, or how they have

chosen to break down their large compositions into smaller, mutually dependent sections.

In *Le Corps en Morceaux*, naturally, the story of John the Baptist features prominently. Likewise the hands of writers or musicians, the feet of dancers, though never, apparently, the larynx of singers. The effect of intentionally fragmented ancient sculpture on modern taste is chronicled, and we also meet Rodin in an unfamiliar guise as a maker of curious assemblages in which small figures of his own are combined with ancient pots and primitive wood-carvings.

Polyptyques is more sober and scholastic. Here the surprise is provided by the astonishing range of materials, from medieval altarpieces to Bacon and beyond. Whether it is Magritte cutting up a nude lady into five distinct features, or Gustave Moreau compiling a secular iconostasis dedicated to the Life of Man, or an anonymous 14th-century Englishman giving us a CinemaScope-shaped progressive Life of the Virgin, there is no doubt about the continuing vitality of the form over many centuries.

Van Dongen is the subject of another sizeable show, at the Musée d'Art Moderne de la Ville de Paris until June 17. Though Dutch, he can presumably be sneaked into French hearts as a member of the all-embracing Ecole de Paris. (The same argument could not doubt be applied, if more shakily, to the originally Czech Kupka, who preceded him at the same museum.)

Both Van Dongen and Kupka have suffered slightly in fame and critical fortunes because no one knows exactly where to place them. But at least Van Dongen, by travelling, has achieved international exposure.

The present retrospective shows him in a good light. He is surely as



"Head of St John the Baptist": a high-relief bronze by Bohumil Kafka from *Corps en morceaux*

life-loving as his fellow Fauve Matisse, though his delight in beautiful women (naked when possible) seems at times to have its sinister side.

He is less weighty than Matisse: more likely to be distracted by social glitter (if his ladies are wearing diamonds they unmistakably sparkle), perhaps to the detriment of the eternal verities.

Then there are the wonderful early Fauve canvases, with their readiness to experiment in composition as well as in colour, the weird later pieces of symbolism, and even, for good measure, a few dour pictures of gloomy Dutchmen to show where it all started. He loved Paris: Paris loved him, and is clearly ready to do it all over again.

● Paris shows recommended by John Russell Taylor

LE CORPS EN MORCEAUX: Musée d'Art Moderne de la Ville de Paris, 7, Tel 40-40-41-42, until June 3.

TONY GARNIER: Georges Pompidou Centre, CCI Galerie, until May 21.

POLYPTYQUES: Louvre, Palais de Louvre, 75001, Paris. Tel 40-50-35-26, until June 23.

● John Russell Taylor's selection from current London shows

ARTIST UNDER ARMS: Frank James (1838-1893) was a cultivated Indian Army officer who painted and drew wherever he went. Queen Victoria admired him, and you can see why. National Army Museum (730 0717) until April 23.

TERESA BOHEMAN: Nina Hammett, painter and queen of Fitzrovia between the wars, was born in Tenby, of all places, a hundred years ago. Centenary exhibition, Tenby Museum (0834 2809) until September.

FILONOV: Georges Pompidou Centre, Grande Galerie, Seine-Est, Paris. Tel 42-77-12-33, until April 30.

KEES VAN DONGEN: Musée d'Art Moderne de la Ville de Paris, 71, Av. du Président Wilson, Paris. Tel 47-23-61-27, until June 17.

ART IN COUNCIL: The Arts Council's collection continues to expand. "Now for the Future" offers a selection of works which have been acquired since 1984. Hayward Gallery (828 5144) until May 6.

CHILDREN FIRST: Mabel Royds, if remembered at all, is remembered for her pictures of children. This gathering from her studio shows equal skill with Indian scenes and animals. Galle Philo (493 2516) until April 30.

Dumping the junk

TELEVISION

Sheridan Morley

WHEN a Central Television executive told me a few weeks ago that he was living in a flat above a McDonald's, I uncharitably assumed that either he or his company had fallen on hard ITV times, and that the relevant hamburger emporium was somewhere in the Midlands. It turned out to be in Pushkin Square, where the man is now selling old television programmes to the newly-perestroikaed viewers.

As for the Moscow McDonald's, that merited a whole 40 Minutes commercial on BBC 2 last night, which contrasted the capitalist nature of hamburger distribution with the essentially anti-capitalist nature of its newest consumers, most of whom regard junk food as a vast improvement on Muscovite notions of *haute cuisine*.

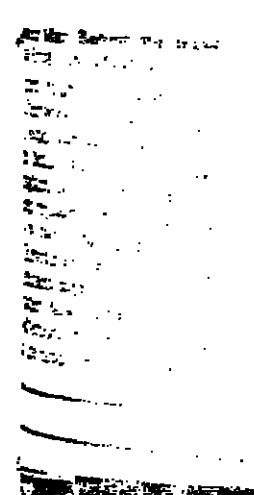
But things in television usually go in twos, and there was another hamburger show on BBC 2 a couple of weeks ago, in the *Small Objects of Desire* series. This established beyond reasonable doubt that hamburgers are simple, unpretentious, rugged, elemental, egalitarian, anti-intellectual, and, in short, American.

Yet in the Soviet Union, where fast food is a contradiction in terms, and people still strike for supplies of soap (though presumably not to eat), McDonald's has achieved a doubling of the London hamburger price against a background of staff costs which are half what they are in the West.

This, then, is not a philanthropic endeavour, despite the fact that the uniforms may be the first well-cut clothes the staff who wear them have ever seen. Having imported American bull sperm to ensure that the beef stock is up to Midwestern standards, McDonald's is now equipping itself with Soviet waitresses whose heights of ambition seem to consist of being photographed with their international hamburger president.

Over in Red Square, where the queue to see his corpse takes a little longer than the two hours needed to get a Big Soviet Mac, Lenin is presumably spinning in his tomb. Meanwhile, somewhere faintly in the background, behind the noise of the new chip-fryers and the beef-sizzlers, I seem to hear the sound of trees being chopped down in a distant cherry orchard.

Earlier in the evening, on Channel 4, Judith Wechsler's *Painter's World* series, now at the halfway point, continues to be a superb, sharp lesson from Boston in the best of American arts programming. This week she was considering the nude in painting through the ages, from the life-classes of today back through six centuries of body worship. On this evidence, our own Open University still has a lot to learn about teaching the appreciation of culture through the camera.



Blinding glimpse of the obvious

DANCE

John Percival

Les Ballets Jazz
Sadler's Wells

THERE is no reason why jazz ballet has to be down-market. Jerome Robbins, Twyla Tharp and Alvin Ailey have shown that clearly enough. This Montreal-based company, aiming for a popular audience, prefers to play safe, avoiding anything which might be thought demanding. Even at this level, however, there are degrees of quality.

The Canadian choreographer Brian Macdonald, represented in

this week's programme by Red Hot Peppers, an all-male ballet to music by Jelly Roll Morton, works at a different level from the other choreographers who have made works for Les Ballets Jazz. This doubtless has something to do with his background, equally at home in classical ballet and directing operas, especially Gilbert and Sullivan.

His is a style not particularly original but thoroughly professional. *Peppers* embodies a joke whereby one dancer pretends to be old and creaky but almost manages to keep up with the agile young men around him, whose sleek solos form the main action. It is lively, smooth and assured.

The rest of this programme is all by Mauricio Wainrot, who comes

from Argentina and is now based in Germany. There is nothing in his four works as good or as awful as last week's extremes, and he does let us hear some good music, especially by Morton Gould and Astor Piazzolla.

Not a cliché is left unused in his corny tribute, if that is the right word, to Janis Joplin, not a slick trick unexploited in his show-off duet for Hua Fang Zhang and Yvan Michaud, like ice skating on dry boards. His tango, ballet slatted with its potential only superficially; I thought how much better Hans van Manen and Oscar Araiz (one balletically, the other theatrically), handled this material. But of course, they both believe that art is entertaining and need not play down to an audience.

Love taken seriously

THEATRE

Benedict Nightingale

As You Like It
Barbican

THIS production has clearly gained from being shipped to London from Stratford, where wise voices last year found it fussy, strenuous and too self-consciously funny. At its best, it is now spare and clear enough. On last night's evidence, John Caird has made good use of his director's plane and sandpaper, paring the theatrical effects and releasing the play's innate sensitivity, charm and humour.

Mark you, the charm, if not the clarity, takes time to arrive. For pleasure, the dinner-jacketed nob of Duke Frederick's court grimly tango under neon lights, breaking off only to urge Andrew Tansey's beefy wrestler to do un-Shakespearean things to Jerome Flynn's Orlando: "get into him", "break his neck". A moment later, heavies with guns are tracking the hero, their electric torches cutting like lasers through the murk. The period, for no especially good reason, is the 1930s.

It is a nasty place, this tinpot tyranny. Nor is the Forest of Arden much more healing, at least at first. On the contrary, those gathering upon its green mangle and beneath its lowering skies look as if their new home is a transit camp without the comfort of huts or the safety of barbed wire. In their ill-fitting overcoats and woollen hats, they might be

wandering unemployed, or refugees from Nazism, or both. "Heigh-ho the holly, this life is most jolly," lugubriously sings a lordling, slumped beside what seems to be Mother Courage's cart, and it is hard to see why.

Still, this is winter, a time the most optimistic exiles from Frederick's court concede to consist of "bitter skies" and "icy blasts". Before long, bluebells and reeds are sprouting from the sward with a resilience paralleled by the human population, particularly Sophie Thompson's Rosalind. Her task is to embody spring, renewal, and hope, and she performs it with quirky grace.

The result is very different from the romantic heroines of yore. Her Rosalind is part wall, part tomboy, a naïve, gawky girl who can mug and fool, tickle an irritating friend, but also play purposeful games when the time comes. With that bewildered heart-throb, Flynn's Orlando, you feel she is testing the sexual waters, readying herself for the plunge itself. Perhaps we do not fully believe her claim, that her affection has "an unknown bottom, like the Bay of Portugal"; but she is certainly on the way to being, as she also says, "fathoms deep in love".

The production's fault is, perhaps, a tendency to stress the obvious. That debonair ironist, Hugh Ross's Jacques, is already outsider enough without having to roam the forest in shiny black shoes and neat black suit, like a Viennese sophisticate in search of a gentlemen's club. However, there are strong performances from Alan Cumming, a painfully lovely Silvanus; Mark Williams's



Sophie Thompson: an embodiment of spring, renewal, and hope

sour, red-headed Touchstone, an alternative comedian before his time; and from Gillian Bevan as Celia, quietly giving weight to the unwelcome part of Rosalind's confidence.

At first she exudes the mild jealousy, the exasperation at being obliged to play gooseberry, that other Celias have found in the role. Her special contribution is a

barely concealed disgust at what she regards as the triviality of the disguised Rosalind's wooing of Orlando. From her the line "You have simply misused our sex in your love-prate" is no joke, but a criticism a later age might even call feminist. Love is to be taken seriously: that is the production's genuinely communicated conclusion, too.

Unnaturally poetic prisoners

Jeremy Kingston

Deathwatch
Finborough

IN THIS faithful and, on several counts, exemplary production of Genet's prison drama, Graeme Messer defines the rectangle of the cell with a single course of granite sets. No door, no barred window, no bars between the prisoners and the audience. But his three inmates begin the play with their backs turned to us — slumped on a stool, on the bed, curled up on the floor — and after taking their final bows, they return to the same positions. For all we have learned about them, so this device sug-

gests, we are no closer to feeling life as these two petty criminals and a murderer feel it.

In this regard, we are even worse off than the empty boaster, Lefranc, consumed with envy of Green Eyes, who strangled his girl on the spur of a moment. Lefranc's deliberated attempt to do likewise damns him as an outsider, lacking the integrity Genet perversely manages to find in his aloof, heroically squalid murderers.

One of Genet's directions asks for the play to unfold "as in a dream", another suggests the actors should "deadend the timbre of their voices". The first is open to any number of interpretations, and Messer's is neither more nor less dream-like than others. The second poses a problem for the actor:

how to deaden the voice without paralysing it. The numbed, dull-eyed speaking of Jamie Sewell's Green Eyes comes across as passionless, not passions controlled.

Mark Debernig plays Lefranc as a swooning, treacherous clerk in an entirely naturalistic style, and Nick Sutton does the same with the waspish, flirty Maurice, leaning forward into Green Eyes's face.

The play comes to us across nearly half a century and its dainty period language now sounds ridiculous when the characters wax poetic. Did ever murderers talk of turning into roses? Even French murderers? Opague, unclear and flowery whenever it speaks of crime, the play still packs a punch when it turns to envy.



Mark Debernig (left) and Jamie Sewell struggle in *Deathwatch*

MARYA
by Isaac Babel
Adapted by Christopher Hampton
From a translation by Michael Glenn & Harold Shukman

"MARVELLOUS"
The Times

**"SUPERBLY STAGED...
SPLENDIDLY PERFORMED"**
The Independent

"EXCELLENT PRODUCTION"
Sunday Times

**"THEATRICAL MASTERPIECE
...OUTSTANDING"**
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50 MOWERS TO CHOOSE FROM

HOVER MOWERS

Black & Decker GX200C Hover Mower 12" Cut... **£49.95**

Qualcast Hover-Safe 25 Hover Mower 10" Cut... **£49.99**

Flymo Minimo Duo Electric Hover Mower 10" Cut... **£49.99**

Flymo Sprinter E25 Twin Electric Hover Mower 10" Cut... **£59.99**

Flymo Sprinter E30 Twin Electric Hover Mower 12" Cut... **£64.99**

Flymo Sprintmaster XE25 Twin Electric Hover Mower 10" Cut... **£89.99**

CYLINDER MOWERS

Qualcast Panther 30 Cylinder Hand Mower 12" Cut... **£34.99**

Black & Decker GB200S Cylinder Mower 12" Cut (With Hose Mixer Spray)... **£69.99**

Qualcast Concorde E30 De-Luxe Cylinder Mower 12" Cut... **£74.99**

Qualcast Suffolk Punch 35S Petrol Cylinder Mower 14" Cut... **£289.99**

ROTARY MOWERS

Black & Decker GR101C Roti-Twin Rotary Mower 12" Cut... **£39.95**

Flymo Chevron 350S Electric Roller Rotary Mower 14" Cut (without brake)... **£109.95**

Mountfield Princess Electric Roller Rotary Mower 14" Cut... **£149.99**

Mountfield Emblem Petrol Rotary Mower 15" Cut... **£239.99**

Mountfield Empress Petrol Roller Rotary Mower 16" Cut... **£289.99**

Flymo Chevron 420GL Petrol Roller Rotary Mower 16½" Cut... **£259.99**

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Qualcast Suffolk Turbo 40K Petrol Roller Rotary Mower 16" Cut... **£349.99**

WHAT'S NEW AT B&Q?

Now you can buy a comfortable and convenient cordless trimmer with a 9 volt battery which, when fully charged, gives over 30 minutes of continuous cutting time. Complete with 248 volt battery-charging unit.

Flymo Cordless Trimmer... **£39.99**

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Tomato Plants **49p each**

B&Q GROWING BAG

Specially formulated to grow a wide variety of plants in greenhouses, balconies and patios. **ONLY 99p**

B&Q Liquid Growmore. Fast acting general fertilizer providing essential nutrients to produce healthy flowers and vegetables. 500ml... **£1.29**

B&Q Liquid Tomato Feed. Special formula to promote strong healthy growth and a high yield of top quality fruit. 500ml... **£1.49**

WIN ONE OF 3 RENAULT 21s

B&Q are holding a competition offering the top performance Renault 21 GTX 2.0i Multivalve Saloon, as well as the luxurious 7-seater Renault 21 Savanna GTX 2.0i Estate and the Renault 21 GTS Hatchback. (See in store for full details).

DAVID STEVENS' TOMATO TIPS

- Plant tomatoes outdoors in growing bags during early June or after last frosts.
- Remove growing points from greenhouse tomatoes when they have produced 6 or 7 trusses.

LOADS MORE LOW PRICES

HURRY WHILE STOCKS LAST!

Flymo Chevron 300T Electric Roller Rotary Mower (without brake) 12" Cut

£79.95 each

DAVID STEVENS ON LAWN CARE

- For best results, sow a new lawn in April.
- A spreader ensures even distribution of lawn fertilizer.
- Do not set mower blades too low for first mowings in the year.
- Use a lawn rake in Spring to get rid of moss, and in June to eliminate clover.
- To ensure a good edge, use a garden line as a cutting guide.

DAVID STEVENS, B&Q's Horticultural Consultant and seven times Gold Medal winner at the Chelsea Flower Show.

POWER TOOLS

Flymo 250 Multi Trim Electric Trimmer 10" Cut... **£39.99**

Black & Decker GT900 13" Cordless Hedge Trimmer... **£59.99**

Black & Decker GT220 16" Dual Action Hedge Trimmer... **£64.99**

GARDEN CARE FROM B&Q

① B&Q Multi Purpose Compost 20 Ltr (Illustrated)... **£2.49**

40 Ltr... **£3.79**

60 Ltr... **£5.49**

② B&Q Tree and Shrub Planting Compost 50 Ltr... **£3.99**

③ B&Q Houseplant Compost 10 Ltr (Illustrated)... **£1.99**

20 Ltr... **£2.99**

④ B&Q Bark Peat 20 Ltr... **£2.99**

⑤ B&Q Spackling 400g... **£1.29**

600g (Illustrated)... **£1.89**

⑥ B&Q Bone Meal 1kg (Illustrated)... **£1.59**

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⑦ B&Q Hanging Basket Compost 1 Ltr (Illustrated)... **£2.19**

25 Ltr... **£3.99**

⑧ B&Q Greenmoss 5kg (Illustrated)... **£1.49**

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⑨ B&Q Eucalyptus Compost 20 Ltr... **£2.49**

GREAT VALUE LAWN CARE

Fisons Lawn Spreader 12" with Evergreen Extra 50 sq.m. (contains MCPA, Mecoprop and Ferrous Sulphate)... **£11.95**

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Fisons Evergreen Extra 100 sq.m. Lawn fertilizer with weedkiller and mosskiller (contains MCPA, Mecoprop and Ferrous Sulphate)... **£5.99**

Fisons Evergreen 90 100 sq.m. Lawn fertilizer with weedkiller (contains MCPA and Mecoprop)... **£5.49**

B&Q Liquid Lawn Feed. Fast acting lawn feed to green up lawns and encourage healthy growth. 500ml... **£1.49**

1 Ltr... **£2.29**

Unwings Economy Lawn Grass Mixture with Ryegrass. Covers 40 sq.m. 2 kg... **£5.49**

Fisons Mosskill Extra 100 sq.m. Mosskiller and lawn fertilizer (contains Ferrous Sulphate)... **£5.49**

READ THE LABEL BEFORE YOU BUY. USE PESTICIDES SAFELY.

ADD SPACE AND VALUE TO YOUR HOME

B&Q's new Eastleigh and Hampshire conservatories have been designed for easy assembly. Everything is pre-cut and prepared for step-by-step installation. Each conservatory is made from quality timber which has been preserved with the latest pressure treatment and covered with a base coat. They both feature sealed unit double glazing with toughened safety glass. Roofing sheets are made from fire-retardant, triple-glazed polycarbonate. Both conservatories come complete with gutters and high security locks. Quickly and easily erected on a prepared base (not supplied).

CONSERVATORIES

Eastleigh Conservatory 2875mm wide x 2620mm deep... **£2,169**

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Hampshire Conservatory 3758mm wide x 3095mm deep... **£3,850**

CONSERVATORIES ON DISPLAY AT SELECTED STORES ONLY. RING 01-200 0200 FOR THE ONE NEAREST YOU.

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Bush Roses in 3.5 Ltr Container (red, pink or gold)... **£2.29 each**

J. Arthur Bowers AB-In-One Hanging Basket Kit. Comprises basket, bracket and screws, tylo liner and mol. compost and liquid fertilizer... **£6.99**

Miniature Roses in 9cm pot... **£1.99 each**

Strip Bedding Plants... **85p each**

SUMMER FLOWERING BULBS

Value Pack of 30 Mixed Dutch Iris (8/10 cm)... **£1.99**

Value Pack of 50 Selected Gladioli (10/12 cm)... **£1.99**

Heathers in 9cm pot... **99p each**

Yakushimanum Hybrid Rhododendron in 3.5 Ltr pot... **£9.99**

Alcornoques in 7cm pot... **99p each**

DAVID STEVENS' GARDENING TIPS

- A bed of bush roses can give you blooms from May to November.
- Yakushimanum Rhododendrons are ideal for a hedge use and produce a wealth of spring blooms.

HAND TOOLS

Wilkinson Sword 800208 Ladies Pruner... **£7.99**

Wilkinson Sword 800235 Medium Bypass Pruner... **£9.99**

Wilkinson Sword 201690 Single Handed Shears... **£12.99**

Black Forge 2203 Dutch Hoe or 2204 Draw Hoe... **£7.99 each**

Black Forge 2208 Cultivator... **£7.99**

Black Forge 2235 12 Tooth Rake... **£7.99**

Black Forge 2206 Lawn Rake... **£7.99**

Gardena 3101/3703 Comb-system Combined Lawn Rake and Handle... **£7.99**

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Police Advance Warning Triangle (legally required in many European countries)... **£7.99**

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AA 1990 Big Road Atlas... **£4.95**

Kingavan RR100 Universal Roof Rack... **£9.99**

CAR SERVICING

Castrol GTX Motor Oil 5 Ltr with 75ml House and Hobby Oil... **£8.49**

B&Q SAE 15W/50 Multigrade Motor Oil 5 Ltr... **£4.49**

WD-40 Aerosol 200ml... **£1.39**

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Oil Filter (eg OF14) from... **£1.09**

Champion Spark Plugs pack of 4 (eg C9YCV)... **£4.49**

LOADS MORE LOW PRICES

B&Q SAE 20W/50 Multigrade Motor Oil 5 Ltr

£2.49 each

SAVE UP TO 1/2 PRICE ON KITCHENS AT B&Q

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£250
ON THESE
8 UNITS**

Banquet Contrast

The dark oak coloured handles and trim contrast elegantly with pale beige doors to give this kitchen a warm and welcoming appeal. The doors have a scratch resistant textured finish with soft-formed edges creating a distinctive look.

ALL 8 UNITS **WAS £522.92** **NOW £272.92**

SAVINGS FOR EVERY £500 SPENT ON BANQUET & ABSOLUTE KITCHEN UNITS	SAVE	WHEN YOU SPEND			
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	UP TO 40% OFF Windsor & Rose	SAVE £200	SAVE £400	SAVE £600	SAVE £800
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	UP TO 20% OFF Absolute, Cambridge, Oxford, York, Devonport, Dorchester & Stratford	SAVE £100	SAVE £200	SAVE £300	SAVE £400

Plus AN EXTRA 10% OFF WITH THE B&Q DISCOUNT CARD
It costs just £25 and gives you 10% off all your D.I.Y. and gardening for a year, excluding purchases of Discount Cards and Gift Vouchers. Pick one up in store. (Discount Card cannot be purchased in Northern Ireland).

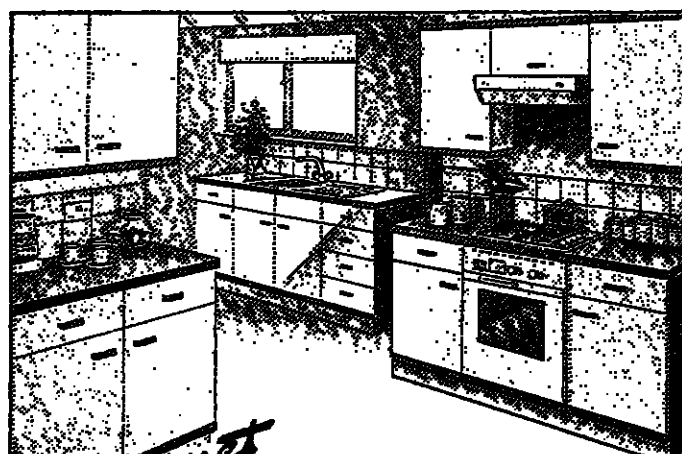


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CUISINE CARPET TILES Hardwearing and stain resistant. Box covers 1 sq.yd. in coffee brown, fudge brown, almond beige, parsley green, cordian bleu or gourmet grey. **£3.99** box of 5

3m WORKTOPS 30mm thick x 600mm wide Postformed in Grey Stratos or Onyx effect. **£17.95** each

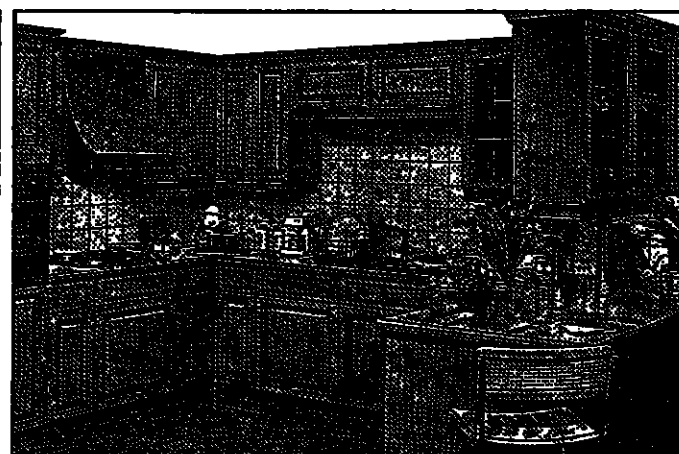


Banquet Spectrum

This modern kitchen has white high-gloss formica laminate doors with moulded edges and D-shaped handles in a choice of green, red, blue or grey. Cornices, light pelmets and bottom rails are optional extras which complete a fully co-ordinated hi-tech look.

ALL 11 UNITS **WAS £485.89** **NOW £557.89**

**SAVE
£500
ON THESE
11 UNITS**



Banquet Ashbourne

Solid ash door frames and ash veneered door panels stained to a mellow antique effect to create a warm, rich, durable kitchen.

ALL 16 UNITS **WAS £1207.84** **NOW £1479.84**

**SAVE
£600
ON THESE
16 UNITS**



Banquet Cadiz

An attractive country style kitchen with solid oak door frames and handles. Oak veneered centre panels are sculptured to give a finely grained finish of natural beauty.

ALL 10 UNITS **WAS £1123.90** **NOW £923.90**

**SAVE
£200
ON THESE
10 UNITS**

HARRY GREENE'S WORKTOP TIPS

- Replace several small unit tops with one worktop
- Remove light wall tiles to ease out old top and ensure good fit of new
- New sinktop should have same positions for taps and waste
- Seal new worktops to tiles or walls with silicone sealant

EVERYTHING FOR THE BATHROOM AT B&Q

You can choose from our range of 11 bathroom suites available to order from any B&Q D.I.Y. Supercentre, 17 showers and 12 shower enclosures plus all the accessories to complete your dream bathroom.



Gainsborough Regent II
7Watt Electric Shower with two power settings and numerical temperature indicator
£49.95 each

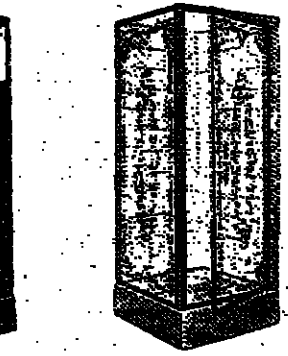


PEARL The Pearl Suite reflects the delicate and distinctive scalloped shape of an oyster shell. This suite comprises of a 5mm twin-grip bath and side panel, basin and pedestal, close coupled w.c. and cistern, toilet seat, gold effect taps and wastes. Available in white, melba, champagne, misty grey or misty pink.
£329.95

FREE ACCESSORIES WITH PEARL SUITE
Classic shell toothbrush holder with tumbler, corner shelf and toilet brush holder. When purchased separately £65.85



Corner Entry Shower Enclosure with styrene panels and silver coloured frame (excluding base) **£79.95**



Edwardian Style Pivot Door Enclosure with gold coloured frame (excluding base and tiles) **£249.90**



Shower Base with Integral Panel 800 x 600mm (white, champagne, misty grey, misty pink or melba) **£34.95**



Edwardian Style Bath Screen with gold or silver coloured frame **£69.95**

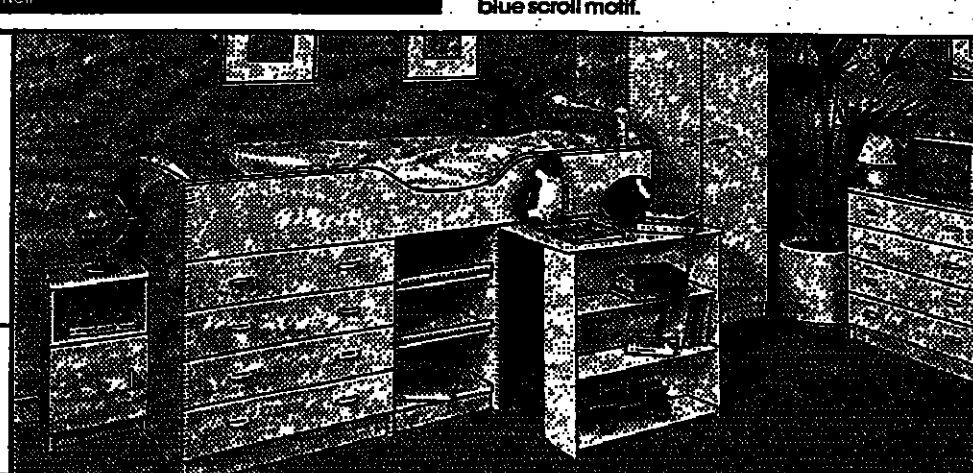
HARRY GREENE'S BATHROOM PLUMBING TIPS

- Safety first! All metal pipes, baths, radiators must be connected (bonded) to each other and to the main earth terminal.
- Halve the work - replace bathroom suite with same size bath and fittings
- Connect stopcocks to isolate every fitting for easy maintenance
- Use combined waste overflow fittings wherever possible
- If new bathroom plumbing alters drainage system, consult Council



11 MORE BEDROOM SUITES TO CHOOSE FROM

Night Time Bedroom Carpet 100% polypropylene available in beige, sky blue, nutmeg, rose, lotus green, grey or arctic blue. **£1.99** per sq.yd.

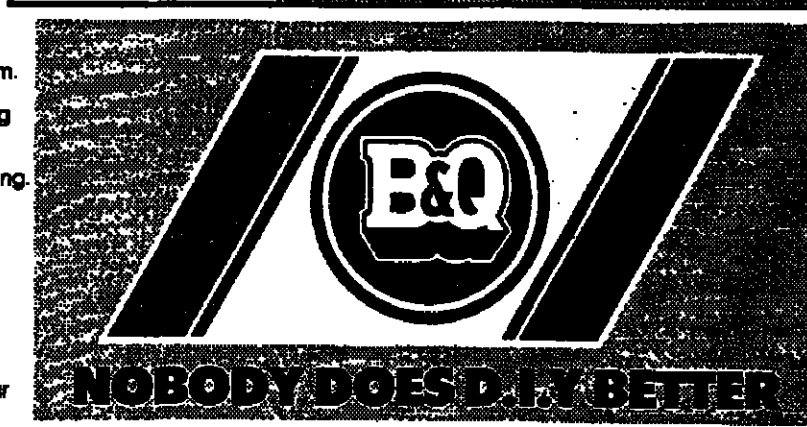


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The Fairdown White Range of Bedroom Furniture offers exceptional value for money. There is a choice of either white, pink or grey handle inserts and co-ordinating pilasters.

EXAMPLES OF SAVINGS			
FAIRDOWN WHITE RANGE	B&Q Normal Price	WAS	NOW
Bedside Locker (335mm wide)	£14.95	£9.55	£7.99
Standard 3 Drawer Chest (500mm wide)	£16.95	£12.55	£11.99
Double Robe (900mm wide)	£39.95	£31.95	£28.75
Mid-Bed excluding mattress and bedding (1930mm wide)	£109.95	£82.95	£79.15

*20% off price applied from 20th March to 23rd April 1990

Enjoy
it's
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From

100% polypropylene

EASTER PREVIEW 1

Enjoy yourself, it's safer than you think

As Britain heads for the traditional 'white-knuckle' thrills of funfairs and theme parks for the Easter weekend

Sally Brompton discovers the biggest danger is getting there

Families planning to spend the Easter weekend hurtling through the air or over the water on a rollercoaster may take heart from the knowledge that they are less likely to be involved in an accident at the theme park or fairground than during the journey to them.

A Health and Safety Executive (HSE) report has estimated that children are seven times more likely to be involved in a road accident on their way to a two-hour session on an amusement ride. Reassuring though the findings may be, there is still concern among the fairground hierarchy over the 80 or 90 accidents which happen every year. "There is no room for complacency in this business," says Anthony Harris, senior vice-president of the Showmen's Guild of Great Britain and chairman of its safety committee.

While the fun of the fair now comes in hi-tech packages which cost anything up to £1 million for a single piece of equipment ("you get an awful

lot of safety for a million pounds," says Colin Dawson, director and general manager of Thorpe Park, in Surrey) the potential for injury still exists. Mr Harris insists that "no ride is more dangerous than any other", pointing out that the risks are statistical. "The chances are that if there is going to be an accident, it's going to be on one of the more popular rides such as the dodgem or the waltzer."

There are around 250 travelling fairs and 15 theme parks in Britain which account for more than 500 million rides every year. Between 1981 and 1989, 22 people were killed and 220 seriously injured on amusement rides. The fairground and theme park owners insist that most of the accidents are the result of passengers failing to conform to safety regulations. Anyone obviously under the influence of alcohol is not allowed on to a ride but larger louts still manage to put themselves and others at risk and, drugs are becoming an increasing problem.

"It's very difficult to know if somebody is on drugs and it is something we are going to

have to address," says Mr Harris who, as the third-generation proprietor of the Pat Collins Funfairs, has 42 fairs in the family business. He estimates that about 20 per cent of last year's (1989) accidents were caused by structural failure.

The HSE's 57-page Code of Safe Practice at Fairs, issued in 1984, did much to improve safety conditions on amusement rides. Guidelines laid down by the Showmen's Guild and the British Association of Leisure Parks, Piers and Attractions (BALPA) require their members to have annual inspections of all their rides by independent engineers.

"It's a very very complex job," says Richard Cousins, a director of consulting engineers L.E. Allen, and an expert in the field of fairground equipment. "Safety standards have most certainly improved over the years but we still find things... special modifications that need to be done." Insurance companies also expect an up-to-date certificate of safety from an independent specialist before

issuing public liability insurance.

Mr Cousins supports the view that most accidents are caused by the customers. "We have the power to close a ride down if we consider it unsafe but it is very, very rare for accidents to be caused by failure in equipment. But in everything there's always room for improvement."

Keeping within the required safety standards can cost a fairground or theme park owner thousands of pounds. The inspections alone can be

expensive, with inspectors charging an average rate of around £100 an hour and the major "white knuckle" bits of equipment such as rollercoasters taking up to two days to inspect.

Thorpe Park, Britain's oldest theme park which was built in 1979 on a 500-acre former gravel pit in Surrey, employs 40 permanent maintenance engineers to look after its 70 rides and attractions. All of Thorpe Park's ride operators are issued each morning with a red card from

an electrical engineer and a green card from a mechanical engineer to confirm that the rides have been tested. In 11 years, there have been two serious accidents.

Waterparks such as the ones belonging to the £34 million Dutch-owned Center Parc in Sherwood Forest, where a three-bedroom villa costs £232 for a weekend of rolling, splashing, diving and riding through steaming lagoons, require their own safety measures. At Center Parc and its sister village in Elveden Forest

in Suffolk there are trained lifeguards, round-the-clock computerized maintenance and strict regulations.

On a more modest scale, water slides such as the two run by Splashdown Water Slides in Bradford and Solihull are inspected once a year by independent experts who check the steel and fibre-glass tubes. Accidents are rare, according to Splashdown's Solihull supervisor, Mark Bailey, and mainly "self-inflicted by customers attempting to do things they're not allowed to

do". Such anti-social and dangerous behaviour results in the perpetrator being removed and/or banned.

At Thorpe Park, Mr Dawson says, the rides are extremely sophisticated and have built-in failsafe mechanisms, the larger rides are computer-controlled and there are start-up tests every day on every ride. It would seem that the public perception of the danger and excitement is much greater than the actuality - but don't tell the children.



Riding high they might be screaming, but passengers on the Transylvania, a 35mph hanging roller-coaster at Chessington are in safe hands

From a joust to a jaunt

Here are some ideas to help answer the perennial cry of 'what shall we do'

Devices to Westminster International Cause Race: Annual 125-mile race open to any two-person crews. It starts beside wharf car park, Devizes, in Wiltshire, at 7am today and finishes on Monday beside County Hall steps, Westminster Bridge, in London, at about 9.15am. Consult a map to find good "pit stops" along the route and the Avon-Camel and the Thames.

Year of the Horse at the Army Museum: All on an equine theme - competitions, trails and prizes. On Tuesday at 2pm, the film "Cavalry", on April 20, 2pm, the "Hands on History" talk and chance to handle items from the museum's collection.

National Army Museum, Royal Hospital Road, London SW3. (01-730 0717). Tomorrow until April 20, Mon to Sat 10am to 5.30pm, Sun 2pm to 5.30pm. Free.

Jousting tournament: Penultimate chance to see the Jousting Association at Chillingham before it moves to its new home at Tapeley Park. Grounds open 11am on Saturday, tournament from 2pm. Also falconry displays, licensed restaurant, free parking. Chillingham Castle, near Canterbury, Kent (0227 730704). Sunday, Mon. Adult £4.50, child £2. Every third child admitted free.

Down on the farm: See cows being milked, baby animals fed. Also a discovery room and a "touch table" for children to handle the animals. Meadow Farm, West Stow, near Bury St Edmunds, in Suffolk. Today, tomorrow, Sun, Mon, 2pm to 5pm. Adult £1.25, children 75p.

Easter at Snape Maltings: Young musicians and international artists combine in a series of concerts in and around Aldeburgh, in Suffolk, and the Snape Maltings concert hall from today to Monday.

Further information and booking (072 453543). Easter Parade: Best-known parade in Britain - 77 floats, marching bands, cheerleaders, fun-fair, jazz and children's theatre. Battersea Park, London SW11. Sunday. Entertainment from 12.30pm, parade from 3pm. Free.

West of England International Boat Show: Boats of all shapes, sizes and prices both under cover and afloat. Numerous exhibitions, trade stands, clubs, advice. Bristol Exhibition Centre, Canon's Road, Bristol. Today until Tues, 10.30am to 5.30pm, late opening and fireworks display to 9pm Wed, 11am to 4pm. Adult £4, child £2.50, family tickets (2 adults 2 children) £10.



Leeds Castle, Kent, where an Easter egg hunt will be held down the slopes of Val d'Isere. Longleaf House and Safari Park, Warminster, Wiltshire. (09853 551). Daily 10am to 6pm. Admission to house, park and all attractions (except simulator), adult £3, child £2. Simulator £1.

Crafts at Thoresby Park: Visiting craftspeople from around the country offer displays, demonstrations and goods for sale. Refreshments. Thoresby Park, in Nottinghamshire, between Ollerton and Worksop. Tomorrow, Sun and Mon 10.30am to 5.30pm. Adult £1.50, child 50p.

The Wind in the Willows: Richard Gill, founder and former director of the Polka Children's Theatre, now has his own company - the Parrot Puppet Theatre - features in this production of the children's classic.

The Playhouse, Derby. Today, tomorrow, morning and afternoon performances. Further information and box office (0332 363275).

Spring Cleaning at the Apprentice House: Spring cleaning as it would have been in 1837 with the housekeeper and her servants about their tasks. Tours to watch the activity at half-hour intervals today from 11am to 5pm. The mill and apprentice house are also open tomorrow to Monday inclusive, 11am to 5pm.

The mill kitchen, fully licensed, sells homemade food. Quarry Bank Mill, Styal, Wilmslow, Cheshire. Tours today; adult £1.50, child £1. Admission to mill and apprentice house adult £3.75, child £2.75.

West Midlands Antiques Fair: Good horological section at this 30-exhibitor fair. Licensed bar and meals. Sutton Coldfield town hall. Today, tomorrow 11am to 5pm. Admission £2 includes catalogue.

National Gallery Trail: Quiz sheets for children - early readers, juniors and seniors - on the subject of feet. Also a competition, with prizes.

National Gallery, Trafalgar Square, London WC2. (01-839 3321), until April 30; Mon to Sat 10am to 6pm, Sun 2pm to 6pm. Quiz sheets from the quiz desk, Orange Street entrance. Free.

Natural History Museum at Easter: The Discovery Centre will be open throughout the holidays - an ideal medium for children aged seven to 11, in which to explore the natural world in a "hands on" environment. If you want to go out of London, a visit to

largely unchanged natural history collection is an alternative.

Natural History Museum, South Kensington, London SW7. 24-hour recorded information (042 6927654). Museum open Mon to Sat 10am to 6pm, Sun 1pm to 6pm. Adult £2.50, child £1.25.

Zoological Museum, Tring, Hertfordshire. Mon to Sat 10am to 5pm, Sun 2pm to 5pm. Adult £1, child 50p.

Stow School Antiques Fair: Leading dealers from around the country exhibit and sell in the main state rooms. Licensed bar and meals.

Stow School, near Buckingham. Today 11am to 8pm, tomorrow, Sun 11am to 6pm. Mon 11am to 5pm. Admission £3, includes catalogue.

All About Week: Exhibition of work by contemporary designers and makers in Wales with many related workshops and activities during the coming months including over the Easter weekend, wool hanging, weaving demonstrations. Next Wed and Thur, children's workshops.

Chepstow Museum, Gwy House, Bridge Street, Chepstow. (0291 625981). Until May 13, Mon to Sat 11am to 1pm, 2pm to 5pm; Sun 2pm to 5pm.

Harness Horse Parade: Annual outing for heavy horses. Veterinary inspections from 9.30am on Saturday, followed by judging of classes and grand parade of winners from noon to 1pm.

Regent's Park, Inner Circle, London NW1. Mon. Free. Hot Cross Buns Ceremony: 200-year old tradition in which a sailor or WREN adds a hot cross bun to the blackened pie started by a widow awaiting her son's return from sea.

Widow's Son Inn, 75 Devons Road, London E3. Today 1pm.

Children's Easter activities in London: Workshops, films and other entertainments. Giffney Museum, Kingsland Road, London EC2. April 17 to 21.

British Museum, Great Russell Street, London WC1. April 18 to 21. Horniman Museum, London Road, Forest Hill, London SE23. April 17 to 25. Museum of London, London Wall, London EC2. (01-600 3699). April 20, 21. Museum of Mankind, 6 Burlington Gardens, London, W1. (01-437 2224). April 25, 26. National Portrait Gallery, St

Martin's Place, London WC2 (01-930 1552). April 17 to 20. National History Museum, Cromwell Road, London SW7. (01-938 9123). Tomorrow to April 25.

Royal Britain, 99 Aldersgate Street, London EC2. (01-588 5858). Today to April 22. Tate Gallery, Millbank, London SW1. (01-821 1313). April 17, 18, 19, 24 and 26.

Theatre Museum, 1E Tavistock Street, Covent Garden, London WC2. (01-836 7891). Monday to April 22.

Victoria and Albert Museum, Cromwell Road, London SW7. (01-938 8500). Tuesday to April 20.

Watermans Arts Centre, 40 High Street, Brentford, Middlesex (01-568 1176). Today to April 26.

Other outings, shows and events in and around London, contacts Kidline (01-222 8070). Mon to Fri until April 27.

Easter at the Science Museum: Giant Easter egg plus egg-making workshops, radio room workshop. Also "Food for Thought" - demonstrations, question and answer sessions, recipe sheets. Also "Art and Science of Lego" exhibition and drama presentations relating to some of the museum's most historic exhibits.

Science Museum, Exhibition Road, South Kensington, London SW7 (01-938 8000). Saturday, Mon, 10am-6pm; Sunday, 11am-6pm. Adult £2.50, child £1.

Motor cross: British 500cc championship (third round) at Little Loveney Hall, Wakes Colne, Essex. Parking and refreshment facilities. £5 adult, £1 child. Sunday 10.30am-5.30pm.

Motor racing: British Formula Three and Formula 3000 on Monday at Thruxton Circuit, Andover, Hampshire. Parking and refreshment facilities. First race 2.15pm. £7 adults, 75p children.

Club championship: Nine race programme featuring single-seaters and saloons on Monday at the Welsh Motorsport Centre, Pembrey, Dyfed. Parking and refreshments. £5 adults, 50p child.

Cycling: Inter-line Riviera Classic, over five stages (all to be held in Devon). Today (first stage) Newton Abbot (Queen St), starting at 1.45pm. 50 miles. Tomorrow (second stage) English Riviera Centre, Torquay, starting at midday. 75 miles. Sunday (third stage) Kingskerswell, starting at 10am. 8-mile individual timed-trials. (Fourth stage) Kings Drive, Torquay, starting at 3.30pm. One-hour and five-lap circuit race. Monday (fifth stage) Festival Theatre, Paignton, starting at 11am. 85 miles, finishing at about 2.30pm, Paignton sea front.

Saoker: Today to April 29, the Embassy World professional championship at Crucible Theatre, Sheffield. Sessions are 10.30am, 3pm and 7.30pm. Admission morning £4, afternoon £5 and evening £6.

Judy Froshaug

More Easter events, see Saturday Review tomorrow.

Easter Preview 2, page 20

FROM THE CLOWN TOWN TO THE AQUAZOOMS

CHESSINGTON WORLD OF ADVENTURE: The new addition to Chessington is The Vampire, a spectacular "hanging" roller-coaster - if you have the stomach. There is also Circus World, an extravaganza based on human skills with Tamara CoCo's circus, plus a "clown town", rides games and children's rides. Circus performance times displayed at main gate.

Chessington World of Adventure, Chessington, Surrey. Open daily from 10am (yrs are advised to arrive early), last admission 3pm, closes 5.30pm. Children under four, free; senior citizens and children aged four-14, £7.50; adult £8.50. Height restriction of 38" 10m on some rides (0372 727227).

THORPE PARK: Four new attractions at the theme park - a family roller-coaster, miniature vintage car rides, an undercover carousel and an "anti-litter" children's show. Thorpe Park, Chertsey, Surrey (0332 569393). Daily 10am-6pm, last admission 4pm. Adult £7.99, child £6.99. Child under 1m tall, free.

ALTON TOWERS: Usual attractions plus seasonal special, Circus on Ice. Alton Towers, Alton, Staffordshire (0538 702200). Open today and tomorrow 9am-6pm; Easter Sunday and Monday 9am-7pm. Adult £9.50, child £7.50. Includes all rides and free car parking.

CAMELOT THEME PARK: Saturday is Chorus Day, with

It's a Knockout-style competitions for children. Jousting twice daily.

Camelot Theme Park, Charnock Richard, Chorley, Preston (0257 453044). Open 10am to early evening, depending on numbers and light. Adult £5.95, child (four-14) £5.95, under fours free. Includes free parking.

PLEASUREWOOD HILLS AMERICAN THEME PARK: Usual attractions plus free Cadbury's Creme Eggs to children on rides over Easter.

Pleasurewood Hills, American Theme Park, Corton Road, Lowestoft, Suffolk (0502 513626). Open 10am-6pm. Admission £7, under-threes free. Includes free parking.

CROOK LOG SWIMMING CENTRE: With "aquazooms" (normally two, only one running at the moment). Inflatable in the pool for children. Crook Log Swimming Centre, Splashworld, Brampton Road, Bexleyheath, London (01-303 5781). Today and Mon, 9am-4pm; Sat 8am-5pm; Sunday 8-11.30am and 2-4pm. Adult £1.20, child 90p.

FANTASEAS: Seven aquazooms (enclosed water slides) and a wave canyon which runs all day. Fantaseas, Cotton Lane, Dartford, Kent (0322 288811). Open 10.30am to 10pm. Adult £5.50, child (under 14) £4.50, child (three to five) £2, under-threes free. Free parking.

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TELEVISION & RADIO

Compiled by Peter Dear
and Gillian MaxeyPosted
on the
front line

Jasper Rees

Broadcast in the Arena slot, *Dear America: Letters Home from Vietnam* (BBC2, 9.25pm) is as authentic an account of the first television war as we are ever likely to get. Illustrating the correspondence of young soldiers on the front line with some astonishing rough-and-ready footage, Bill Couture's film adds up to a brutally immediate oral and pictorial history. Hollywood has been here before, of course, and often, but rather than be cowed by his subject's silences, Couture exploits them, often devastatingly eloquent letters ("They will be dead for this country, keeping it free: negative") are read by Vietnam movie veterans such as Robert de Niro, Robin Williams, Martin Sheen, Tom Berenger and Willem Dafoe. And, although he uses the trusty scene-setting play of playing Sticks and stones over his moving images, one's abiding impression is that this is not art but life.



Jane Lapotnik: the intellectual and mystic Simone Weil (Ch4, 8.00pm)

Someone who was variously described as a "one-woman monastery" and "the categorical imperative in skirts" would not appear to be a promising subject for a biographical docudrama, and *Simone Weil* (Channel 4, 8.00pm) does not in that respect disappoint. Jane Lapotnik does her best to bring out the theatrical in the asexual and spiritual French thinker, but shots of Weil feverishly reading and writing, Well pacing up and down her study, Weil butchering out a migraine, are about as visually frenetic as it gets. But the real effort of this programme is to make out a case for her importance as an intellectual and mystic, and this it does convincingly.

Part two of *United* (BBC2, 8.25pm), a profile of Second Division promotion candidates Sheffield United, gives itself over to the football widows. Playing second fiddle to the club their husbands serve, some wives are fanatically involved, others blithely oblivious. All, though, suffer at the hands of a deeply ingrained sexual apartheid: the directors' wives have their own lounge; the players' wives are tardily alerted if their husbands are stretched off. Not a programme for the game's traditionalists.

The Harrods Sale (Channel 4, 7.00pm) counts as a repeat, but bracketed at front and back by a supplement which puts the two-year-old programme into a current context, John Plender's uncompromising investigation of the means by which the Fayed brothers purchased the world's most famous department store re-emerges as a classic of the lid-lifting genre.

6.00 *Cartoon*
6.00 *Remembrance: A Month To Remember*. Young Muslims say what the holy month means to them (r)
6.55 *Mother Teresa with a prayer for the dying*
7.00 *News with Jill Carter*. Regional news and weather
7.15 *Easter Children's BBC* introduced by Simon Parkin and Andi Peters beginning with *Heidi's* special. American puppet series. **7.40** *The Pink Panther Show*. Cartoons
8.00 *News*. regional news and weather
8.15 *Smogglers*. Animated series
8.40 *Cartoons*. **8.55** *Regional news and weather*
9.00 *News and weather*
9.15 *Heidi's* with Heidi and Co. Cartoon adventures of an alley cat (r) **9.25** *Why Don't You...?* 7 Adventure drama series featuring entertaining ideas for young people at a loose end **9.55** *New York Beat*. Series. Cartoon
10.00 *Tomcat*. Rob Corley hosts the quizword final (r) **10.25** *Playdays*. This morning's story is *Which*. Which, by Clive Duncan (r)
10.55 *Mother Teresa with a prayer for the dying*
11.00 *Good Friday Meditation*. Jean Vanier, founder of L'Arche, an international community for mentally handicapped people, leads a meditation from Troly in northern France
12.00 *News and weather* followed by *Daytime Live*. Includes the latest entertainment news from Simon Packer and gardening advice from Alan Titchmarsh **12.35** *Regional news and weather*
1.00 *One O'Clock News* with Moira Stuart. **1.15** *Neighbours*. Suburban soap set in sunny Oz. (Ceefax)
1.40 *Young Winston* (1972). A lively though erratic account of the early years in the life of Winston Churchill, from his schooldays through his years in Africa as a journalist to his arrival in Parliament. Directed by Richard Lester
4.00 *Children of Garage*. Moving stories about children first seen during last autumn's *Children in Need* evening. Introduced by Esther Rantzen and Gavin Costello (r)
4.40 *Noel Edmonds' Concorde*. Special. Noel Edmonds talks to Capt John Hutchinson in the cockpit of Concorde on route to Washington during the 20th anniversary flight of the supersonic jet (r)
5.35 *Neighbours* (r). (Ceefax)
6.00 *News with Moira Stuart*. Weather **6.15** *Regional news and weather*
6.30 *Fillins: The Four Musketeers* (1974) starring Oliver Reed, Michael York, Richard Chamberlain, Faye Dunaway and many other big names in this rip-roaring, tongue-in-cheek version of the adventures of the over-dressed French swordsmen. Directed by Richard Lester
8.00 *Allo! Allo!* More cowardly comedy starring Gordon Kane as the tinorous restaurateur René, tonight trying to raise a ransom of one million francs (r). (Ceefax)
8.25 *Some Mothers Do 'Ave 'Em*. Classic comedy written by Raymond Allen starring the multi-talented Michael Crawford as Frank Spencer, one of life's walking disasters. In this episode he brings predictable chaos to the home of his electronics expert brother-in-law. With Michelle Dotrice (r)
8.55 *News with Philip Hayton*. Regional news and weather
9.15 *Bergerac: Second Time Around*. Solid, reliable detective series set on Jersey starring John Nettles. In this feature-length episode, written by Ian Kennedy Martin, Bergerac is on the trail of a vicious killer but unwittingly makes things difficult for himself by becoming involved with a witness—a robber's moll (r). (Ceefax)
10.55 *Fillins: The Odd Couple* (1969). Jack Lemmon and Walter Matthau star in this superb screen version of Neil Simon's sharp comedy about two middle-aged friends who find they can't stand one another when they start sharing an apartment. Messrs Oscar (Matthau) and Felix (Lemmon) live in look and weedy pokiness. Neurotic Felix can't bear to see a dirty saucer without spring-cleaning over him—that is why he will throw him out. Masterly verbal duelling. Directed by Gene Saks
12.35am *Mother Teresa with a prayer for the world's orphans*
12.40 *Weather*

BBC 2

6.00 *TV-am* begins with *News* and *Good Morning Britain* presented by Linda Mitchell and, from 7.00, by Lorraine Kelly and Mike Morris. With news at 6.30, 7.00, 7.30, 8.00 and 8.30. **8.35** *Weekday*. Children's entertainment introduced by Timmy Mallett
9.25 *Cross With*. Tom O'Connor introduces another edition of the brain-teasing crossword quiz
9.55 *Road Runner*. Cartoon
10.00 *Film: Jesus Christ Superstar* (1973) starring Ted Neeley, Carl Anderson and Yvonne Scieleon. Film adaptation of the Andrew Lloyd Webber-Tim Rice innovative rock musical in which a group of young tourists visiting the Holy Land act out the key scenes in the life of Christ. However, critics at the heights of the stage show, the film has its powerful moments as well as its detractors. Directed by Norman Jewison
12.00 *Easter Meditations: A Prayer for Mercy*. Father Michael Campbell-Johnston SJ, a priest of the Province of Great Britain, asks "where is Christ in poverty?"
12.30 *Home and Away*. Australian drama series
1.00 *News at One* with Fiona Armstrong. Weather
1.05 *Film: The Four Musketeers* (1974) starring Beau Bridges, Robert Powell, Simon Ward and Jane Seymour. A re-make of the 19th-century version of A. W. Mason's classic adventure story of an Englishman forced to prove that he is not a coward. Directed by Don Sharp
3.00 *Sound Like Music*. Bobby Crush hosts this light-hearted quiz about stage and screen musicals
3.30 *South and South-east*. Australian family drama series
4.00 *Film: Dumbo* (1941). One of Walt Disney's most delightful animated features tells the story of a little elephant ostracised by his peers. Directed by Ben Sharpsteen
5.10 *Home and Away* (r)
5.40 *News with Fiona Armstrong*. Weather
6.00 *LWT News and weather*
6.15 *The Magic of David Copperfield*. Master magician David Copperfield with more illusions, including an attempt to levitate a sports car, assisted by guests Mary Crosby, Jack Klugman and Debby Boone
7.00 *Through the Keyhole*. David Frost guides Willie Rushton, Harry Raper and Mike Reid as they try to identify famous homeowners from Lloyd Grossman's clues.
7.30 *Coronation Street*. Another dose of drama, decisions and heartbreak. (Teletext)
8.00 *Searchline Special*. Cilla Black introduces this extended version of the popular Searchline series. *Surprise! Surprise!* Andy Craig heads a team of researchers who try to bring together long-lost relatives and friends. Gordon Burns reports from Australia, where participants are hoping to contact those they left behind
9.00 *News with Fiona Armstrong*. Weather **9.15** *LWT News and weather*
9.30 *Film: Wolf* (1989) starring Jack Scalia, Joseph Girard and Nicolas Sorey. Plot features film for a successful American television series. A once-respected San Francisco policeman, Tony Wolf, is caught in a drug deal and ends up off the force. Now, two years later, he returns as a private investigator. Directed by Rod Holcomb. (Teletext)
11.05 *Searchline Special Update*. Cilla Black with a live report on the results of tonight's nationwide search for long-lost friends and relations
11.25 *Barry Manilow* on Broadway. With the aid of songs and sketches, the Black with a live report on his rise from audition pianist to international fame in this show recorded at New York's Gerstwin Theatre
12.35am *Golf US PGA Seniors* Tournament from the PGA National Golf Club, Palm Beach, Florida
1.35 *Film: Honeyuckle Rose* (1986) starring Willie Nelson and Dylan Cannon. A love story set in the country-and-western star is on the verge of national success. But his life and career turn sour when he starts to meddle with his former partner's daughter. Directed by Jerry Schatzberg
3.40 *The Blizzard of Ashby's*. Stunt skiing
5.00 *ITN Morning News with Phil Roman*. Ends at 6.00

BBC 2

6.45 *Open University: Light in Search of a Model*. Ends at 7.10
8.25 *Flash Gordon* (b/w). Episode nine (r)
8.35 *Film: King of Kings* (1961) starring Jeffrey Hunter. This classic religious epic on the life of Jesus, superbly filmed in CinemaScope but less some of its lustre on the small screen, also concentrates on Barabbas the robber and on the tension between the Romans and Herod. Directed by Nicholas Ray
11.00 *Play Snooker* with Dennis Taylor
11.30 *World Snooker*. David Vine introduces the opening frames in the Embassy World Snooker Championship from the Crucible Theatre, Sheffield, the first of 17 days coverage
12.30 *The Royal Institution Christmas Lectures* (r) **1.20** *Tales of Aesop* **1.25** *World Snooker*. Further coverage from Sheffield
3.15 *World Figure Skating*. The World figure skating exhibition **4.05** *Top Gear* (r)
4.35 *Film: Easter Parade* (1948) starring Fred Astaire and Judy Garland. This durable Irving Berlin musical is loosely based on the Pygmalion story. Don, a dancer, is seduced by his partner and, in a fit of pique, boasts that he can make a dancing star out of anyone he chooses—and plumps for a chorus girl. Directed by Charles Walters. (Ceefax)
6.15 *Beethoven: Mass in C*. John Hugh Thomas introduces a recorded performance from St David's Hall in Cardiff. This compelling work is conducted by John Elgar Gardner, with Yvonne Kenny (soprano), Diana Montague (mezzo-soprano), Robert Tear (tenor), Gwynne Howell (bass), the Ardwyn Singers and the BBC Welsh Symphony Orchestra
7.10 *Gardeners' World* reports from the Royal Horticultural Society's Spring Show in London's Vincent Square
7.40 *Joe Tasker*. The concluding part of a documentary about the life of the late climber
8.10 *First Easter: The Peacekeeper*. A profile of Uwe Holmer, the Lutheran pastor who has been sheltering a Polish homosexual, the former East German head of state
8.25 *United: The Women* (see Choice)
8.55 *A Bit of Fry and Laurie*. Stephen Fry and Hugh Laurie in another half-hour of off-beat comedy. (Ceefax)
9.25 *Arena: Dear America—Letters Home from Vietnam* (see Choice)
10.50 *Jeet 825*. The telejournalist Thelma Monk recorded in 1965
11.20 *Jeet 825*
11.25 *World Snooker*. More coverage of the Embassy World Championship. Ends at 1.30am

VARIATIONS

BBC1 *WALLS* 6.15pm-6.30pm Wales Today 12.00pm-12.45pm News and weather 1.30pm-1.45pm Wales Today 2.00pm-2.15pm Wales Today 2.30pm-2.45pm Wales Today 3.00pm-3.15pm Wales Today 3.30pm-3.45pm Wales Today 4.00pm-4.15pm Wales Today 4.30pm-4.45pm Wales Today 5.00pm-5.15pm Wales Today 5.30pm-5.45pm Wales Today 6.00pm-6.15pm Wales Today 6.30pm-6.45pm Wales Today 7.00pm-7.15pm Wales Today 7.30pm-7.45pm Wales Today 8.00pm-8.15pm Wales Today 8.30pm-8.45pm Wales Today 9.00pm-9.15pm Wales Today 9.30pm-9.45pm Wales Today 10.00pm-10.15pm Wales Today 10.30pm-10.45pm Wales Today 11.00pm-11.15pm Wales Today 11.30pm-11.45pm Wales Today 12.00am-12.15am Wales Today 12.30am-12.45am Wales Today 1.00am-1.15am Wales Today 1.30am-1.45am Wales Today 1.50am-2.00am Wales Today 2.15am-2.30am Wales Today 2.30am-2.45am Wales Today 2.45am-3.00am Wales Today 3.00am-3.15am Wales Today 3.15am-3.30am Wales Today 3.30am-3.45am Wales Today 3.45am-4.00am Wales Today 4.00am-4.15am Wales Today 4.15am-4.30am Wales Today 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Wales Today 2.45am-3.00am Wales Today 3.00am-3.15am Wales Today 3.15am-3.30am Wales Today 3.30am-3.45am Wales Today 3.45am-4.00am Wales Today 4.00am-4.15am Wales Today 4.15am-4.30am Wales Today 4.30am-4.45am Wales Today 4.45am-5.00am Wales Today 5.00am-5.15am Wales Today 5.15am-5.30am Wales Today 5.30am-5.45am Wales Today 5.45am-6.00am Wales Today 6.00am-6.15am Wales Today 6.15am-6.30am Wales Today 6.30am-6.45am Wales Today 6.45am-7.00am Wales Today 7.00am-7.15am Wales Today 7.15am-7.30am Wales Today 7.30am-7.45am Wales Today 7.45am-8.00am Wales Today 8.00am-8.15am Wales Today 8.15am-8.30am Wales Today 8.30am-8.45am Wales Today 8.45am-9.00am Wales Today 9.00am-9.15am Wales Today 9.15am-9.30am Wales Today 9.30am-9.45am Wales Today 9.45am-10.00am Wales Today 10.00am-10.15am Wales Today 10.15am-10.30am Wales Today 10.30am-10.45am Wales Today 10.45am-11.00am Wales Today 11.00am-11.15am Wales Today 11.15am-11.30am Wales Today 11.30am-11.45am Wales Today 11.45am-12.00am Wales Today 12.00am-12.15am Wales Today 12.15am-12.30am Wales Today 12.30am-12.45am Wales Today 12.45am-1.00am Wales Today 1.00am-1.15am Wales Today 1.15am-1.30am Wales Today 1.30am-1.45am Wales Today 1.45am-1.50am Wales Today 1.50am-2.00am Wales Today 2.00am-2.15am Wales Today 2.15am-2.30am Wales Today 2.30am-2.45am Wales Today 2.45am-3.00am Wales Today 3.00am-3.15am Wales Today 3.15am-3.30am Wales Today 3.30am-3.45am Wales Today 3.45am-4.00am Wales Today 4.00am-4.15am Wales Today 4.15am-4.30am Wales Today 4.30am-4.45am Wales Today 4.45am-5.00am Wales Today 5.00am-5.15am Wales Today 5.15am-5.30am Wales Today 5.30am-5.45am Wales Today 5.45am-6.00am Wales Today 6.00am-6.15am Wales Today 6.15am-6.30am Wales Today 6.30am-6.45am Wales Today 6.45am-7.00am Wales Today 7.00am-7.15am Wales Today 7.15am-7.30am Wales Today 7.30am-7.45am Wales Today 7.45am-8.00am Wales Today 8.00am-8.15am Wales Today 8.15am-8.30am Wales Today 8.30am-8.45am Wales Today 8.45am-9.00am Wales Today 9.00am-9.15am Wales Today 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3.30am-3.45am Wales Today 3.45am-4.00am Wales Today 4.00am-4.15am Wales Today 4.15am-4.30am Wales Today 4.30am-4.45am Wales Today 4.45am-5.00am Wales Today 5.00am-5.15am Wales Today 5.15am-5.30am Wales Today 5.30am-5.45am Wales Today 5.45am-6.00am Wales Today 6.00am-6.15am Wales Today 6.15am-6.30am Wales Today 6.30am-6.45am Wales Today 6.45am-7.00am Wales Today 7.00am-7.15am Wales Today 7.15am-7.30am Wales Today 7.30am-7.45am Wales Today 7.45am-8.00am Wales Today 8.00am-8.15am Wales Today 8.15am-8.30am Wales Today 8.30am-8.45am Wales Today 8.45am-9.00am Wales Today 9.00am-9.15am Wales Today 9.15am-9.30am Wales Today 9.30am-9.45am Wales Today 9.45am-10.00am Wales Today 10.00am-10.15am Wales Today 10.15am-10.30am Wales Today 10.30am-10.45am Wales Today 10.45am-11.00am Wales Today 11.00am-11.15am Wales Today 11.15am-11.30am Wales Today 11.30am-11.45am Wales Today 11.45am-12.00am Wales Today 12.00am-12.15am Wales Today 12.15am-12.30am Wales Today 12.30am-12.45am Wales Today 12.45am-1.00am Wales Today 1.00am-1.15am Wales Today 1.15am-1.30am Wales Today 1.30am-1.45am Wales Today 1.45am-1.50am Wales Today 1.50am-2.00am Wales Today 2.00am-2.15am Wales Today 2.15am-2.30am Wales Today 2.30am-2.45am Wales Today 2.45am-3.00am Wales Today 3.00am-3.15am Wales Today 3.15am-3.30am Wales Today 3.30am-3.45am Wales Today 3.45am-4.00am Wales Today 4.00am-4.15am Wales Today 4.15am-4.30am Wales Today 4.30am-4.45am Wales Today 4.45am-5.00am Wales Today 5.00am-5.15am Wales Today 5.15am-5.30am Wales Today 5.30am-5.45am Wales Today 5.45am-6.00am Wales Today 6.00am-6.15am Wales Today 6.15am-6.30am Wales Today 6.30am-6.45am Wales Today 6.45am-7.00am Wales Today 7.00am-7.15am Wales Today 7.15am-7.30am Wales Today 7.30am-7.45am Wales Today 7.45am-8.00am Wales Today 8.00am-8.15am Wales Today 8.15am-8.30am Wales Today 8.30am-8.45am Wales Today 8.45am-9.00am Wales Today 9.00am-9.15am Wales Today 9.15am-9.30am Wales Today 9.30am-9.45am Wales Today 9.45am-10.00am Wales Today 10.00am-10.15am Wales 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Wales Today 4.30am-4.45am

BUSINESS

SECTION 2

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Executive Editor
 David Brewerton

THE POUND

US dollar
 1.6425 (-0.0010)
 W German mark
 2.7487 (-0.0083)
 Exchange index
 87.0 (-0.1)

STOCK MARKET

FT 30 Share
 1741.0 (+7.7)
 FT-SE 100
 2222.1 (+8.6)
 USM (Datastream)
 140.82 (+0.23)
 Market report, page 27

Renault to raise over £1bn

Paris FRANCE'S state-owned car maker, Renault, is to increase its share capital to enable Volvo of Sweden to take a 25 per cent stake, the French industry minister, M Roger Fauroux, said.

The new capital "will increase Renault's assets by Fr12.15 billion (£1.34 billion) and will increase its cash flow by Fr2.5 billion," M Fauroux said at a parliamentary hearing on a bill to change Renault's legal status.

Volvo will pay £20.5 billion to Renault which in turn will pay Fr15.5 billion to Volvo, M Fauroux said. He gave no further details.

Renault will buy Volvo shares on the Swedish market. The remaining cross-holdings will be achieved through share-swaps.

The pact will eventually lead to the joint production and sales of vehicles, M Fauroux said.

(Reuters)

STOCK MARKETS

New York
 Dow Jones 2758.80 (+23.87)
 Tokyo
 Nikkei Average 29622.20 (+182.92)
 Hong Kong
 Hang Seng 2895.80 (+35.71)
 Amsterdam
 AEX 118.0 (+1.1)
 Sydney
 Sydney All Ordinaries 1458.4 (-7.4)
 Frankfurt
 Frankfurt DAX 1918.17 (+24.40)
 Brussels
 C2X 6133.38 (+22.98)
 Zurich
 Zurich CAC 549.47 (+4.47)
 Zurich SMI 591.5 (+2.2)
 London
 FT-100 Share 1741.0 (+7.7)
 FT-100 Index 2222.1 (+8.6)
 FT-100 Dividend 118.0 (+1.1)
 FT-100 Dividend Yield 4.47 (+0.02)
 FT-100 Dividend Payout 4.47 (+0.02)
 FT-100 Dividend Yield 4.47 (+0.02)
 FT-100 Dividend Payout 4.47 (+0.02)

MAIN PRICE CHANGES

RISER:
 Glaxo 813p (+24p)
 Dowdy 215p (+8p)
 Body Shop 467p (+25p)
 P-E International 248p (+10p)
 Commercial Union 478p (+10p)
 CITI Group 185p (+12p)
 Eurotunnel Units 595p (+30p)

FALLS:
 Erskine House 121p (-47p)
 Gresham House 375p (-20p)
 Rosebush 285p (-14p)
 Land Securities 495p (-15p)
 Wellcome 689p (-15p)
 Hardanger 575p (-25p)
 Hamamson 785p (-18p)
 Greyhound 110p (-10p)
 British Land 370p (-8p)
 Church 250p (-15p)
 First Technology 450p (-10p)
 Delny Packaging 550p (-10p)
 Harvey & Thompson 490p (-10p)
 Closing prices
 Barclays 1999p
 SEAO Volume 324.5m

INTEREST RATES

London Bank Base: 15%
 3-month Interbank 15%+15%
 6-month Interbank 15%+15%
 US Prime Rate 10%
 Federal Funds 8 1/4%
 3-month Treasury Bill 7.74-7.79%
 30-year Treasury 8 1/2-8 1/2%

CURRENCIES

London:
 £: \$1.6425
 £: DM2.7487
 £: Sfr2.7487
 £: FF16.2383
 £: Yen158.17
 £: Indec87.0
 ECU 20.742210 SDR 20.794987
 ECU1.347322 SDR1.257882

GOLD

London Fixing
 AM \$375.25 pro-\$375.50
 close \$375.00-\$375.50 (\$228.25-228.75)
 New York
 Comex \$375.50-\$376.00*

NORTH SEA OIL

Brent (Jun) \$18.70 bid (\$18.45)
 * Danco's latest trading price

TOURIST RATES

	Bank	Bank
Amsterdam	2.55	2.19
Antwerp	2.55	2.19
Brussels	2.55	2.19
Frankfurt	2.55	2.19
Geneva	2.55	2.19
London	2.55	2.19
Madrid	2.55	2.19
Paris	2.55	2.19
Rome	2.55	2.19
Stockholm	2.55	2.19
Switzerland	2.55	2.19
Turkey	2.55	2.19
USA	2.55	2.19
West Germany	2.55	2.19

Rates for small denomination bank notes only as supplied by Barclay Bank PLC. Discount rates apply to travellers' cheques.
 Retail Price Index: 100.2 (February)

Wage-price spiral fears on 8.1% inflation

By Colin Netherbridge
 Economics Correspondent

THE inflation rate climbed to 8.1 per cent last month — its highest since last July — and threatens to pass 9.5 per cent this month, arousing fears of a wage-price spiral that could undermine the Government's counter-inflation strategy.

Labour market figures showing seasonally-adjusted average earnings for the whole economy up from 9.25 per cent in the year to January to 9.5 per cent in February — the highest since March 1989 — added to City concern.

Unemployment showed a further small seasonally-adjusted fall of 6,800 to 1,603,600, or 5.6 per cent of the workforce, suggesting the labour market is not softening fast enough to exert downward pressure on wages. Mr John Sheppard,

senior economist at Warburg Securities, said the figures would encourage wage negotiators to try to delay settlements until they see how inflation turns out. "And there is now a very real possibility of it reaching 10 per cent."

Against this inflation background, he envisaged wage expectations rising for both the present and autumn pay rounds.

Meanwhile, Bank of England figures on bank notes in circulation pointed to M0, the narrow money supply measure still targeted by the Treasury, holding above its 1.5 per cent target range — and accelerating.

Mr Simon Briscoe, UK economist at Midland Montagu, said the 10.9 per cent adjusted rise in notes last week over the equivalent week in 1989, while distorted by Easter, was consistent with M0 growth

of 6.8-6.9 per cent, compared with 6.4 per cent for the previous two months.

Last month's 8.1 per cent annual RPI increase from 7.5 per cent in February was largely attributed to higher mortgage interest rates.

Prices for food, used cars, clothing and footwear also rose. Since last March, food prices have risen 8.7 per cent — the biggest rise in almost nine years. Excluding mortgage interest payments, annual inflation rose from 6.2 per cent to 6.3 per cent — its highest for more than eight years.

The poll tax is expected to add 1.4 percentage points to the RPI this month. Budget increases in excise duty on alcohol, tobacco and petrol, plus planned electricity, gas and water price rises, are expected to push the headline inflation rate even higher this month. Economists differ over

whether inflation will peak this month, but agree it is certain to pass last year's peak of 8.3 per cent, in May and June. Inflation was last at 9.5 per cent in May 1982.

But despite a slightly worse picture of the economy than the forecasts, the markets were reluctant to take new positions before the long Easter weekend.

Mr John Major, the Chancellor, had prepared the markets for the inflation rise in last month's Budget, but said the poll tax would add more than 1 per cent to the RPI.

The seasonally adjusted fall in the number of jobless last month — the 44th consecutive monthly drop — was again small, reinforcing the view that employment could start to rise again soon.

The national trend shows a clear drop in the average monthly decline, despite continuing falls in the West Midlands,

Yorkshire, Humberside and Scotland. A slowdown in the number of people finding work has also become evident.

The underlying rise in average earnings to 9.5 per cent was in line with market expectations, but it broke the trend of the previous four months. With a number of big pay settlements still to feed through, it is expected to move higher in the months ahead.

● US retail sales fell 0.6 per cent last month — the second consecutive monthly drop and the largest for six months — providing fresh evidence the economy is slowing. The Commerce Department said car sales, down 1.4 per cent, led the overall decline to a seasonally-adjusted \$148.55 billion.

Comment, page 25

Yardley sale to US nets SB £110m

By Gillian Bowditch

YARDLEY cosmetics, Lenthéric perfumes and Morny soaps are going the same way as Marmite, Bovril and Ambrosia Creamed Rice.

SmithKline Beecham, the transatlantic healthcare group, has sold its cosmetics business Yardley/Lenthéric to Old Bond Street Corporation of the US for £110 million. Wasserstein Perella Management Partners, an affiliate of the US buyout specialist, will own 88.5 per cent of the business.

SB shareholders learned this week that Mr Bob Bauman, the group's chief executive, is now the third highest paid director in Britain. His salary rose from £864,000 to £1.26 million, an increase of 46 per cent. A spokesman for SB said £450,000 of that was profit-related.

SB's chairman, Mr Henry Wem, saw his salary rise from £428,000 to £1.16 million.

The sale of Yardley/Lenthéric represents about one-third of the SB cosmetics business and the price of just over one times sales suggests that the group could achieve a price of between £350 million and £400 million for the total cosmetics business.

Talks are continuing on the sale of the Continental European cosmetics businesses Margaret Astor and Lancaster.

SB will receive £70 million in cash for Yardley/Lenthéric and £40 million in subordi-

nated loan notes of a British subsidiary of Old Bond Street. The loan notes are redeemable in 1998 and bear fixed interest of 9 per cent per annum which is payable after three years.

SB will hold a 10 per cent stake in Old Bond Street and will have a representative on the board. The Yardley management will have a 1.5 per cent stake in their company with the option of acquiring a further 4.5 per cent stake from Wasserstein Perella, which will have 88.5 per cent.

The Yardley/Lenthéric business made operating profits of £10 million on sales of £106 million in 1989 and has assets of £67 million.

The proceeds of the sale will be used to reduce SB's borrowings and the deal takes SB's disposals to £491 million. In addition to the Continental European cosmetics businesses and Yardley South Africa, SB intends to sell a small pharmaceutical business.

Mr Robert McKeon, president of Wasserstein Perella Management Partners, said the business had strong brand names with a 71 per cent name recognition in the US. The company intends to spend money marketing the product, particularly in the US where it is not easily available.

"It is probably true to say the brand has been neglected in the past but we see that as an opportunity," Mr McKeon said.

Wasserstein Perella's other

British interests include a stake in the supermarket group Gateway and Warners, the wallpaper and furnishing fabric business. Mr McKeon said he believed there were other opportunities to acquire British businesses with strong brand names. There is a possibility that Yardley will be floated on the stock market.

SB shares rose 4p to 503p on news of the disposal. The City was pleased with the price achieved.

Initially some analysts had been expecting a disposal price for the entire cosmetics business of about £600 million but figures were revised downwards when it became apparent that the businesses were proving more difficult to sell than had been anticipated.

A spokesman for SB said the group had hoped to sell the entire cosmetics business to one buyer but that proved impossible. SB now intends to sell the Astor/Lancaster business to one party and the Yardley South African business separately.

Negotiations with several parties for the sale of the other cosmetics businesses are believed to be at an advanced stage. Management buyouts of the businesses have not been ruled out.

Mr McKeon said Wasserstein Perella would consider purchasing other cosmetics businesses to add to the Yardley/Lenthéric business but is not negotiating to buy the Astor/Lancaster businesses.

Greggs 1p Easter treat

RONA BAIN



MIKE Darrington (above), managing director of Greggs, the country's largest independent retail baker.

The promotion lasted only a short while before prices returned to normal levels: 54p for four.

Mr Darrington said Greggs expects to "sell a million of them" this week, bringing its total Easter hot cross bun sales

to just under 4 million. Greggs has lifted profits from £1.9 million to £6.7 million since going public in 1984. It has seven bakeries and 420 shops.

Pre-tax profits for 1989 were up 17.6 per cent at £6.7 million (£5.7 million) and earnings per share rose from 35.9p to 39.8p. The total dividend is 12p (10.125p).

One formula would see the trust listed both in London and Johannesburg, allowing South African investors to invest free of restrictive exchange control regulations.

Discussions are underway with the South African Reserve Bank to see whether funds could be swapped under a reciprocal agreement.

Launch of gold trust delayed

By Jon Ashworth

JAMES Capel and Robert Fleming have called off the launch of Britain's first gold investment trust because of the uncertainty over the world gold price and, in turn, gold shares.

They had planned to launch a £300 million fund to invest in worldwide gold mining shares, and bullion itself, on Tuesday. But less than £50 million is thought to have been pledged, forcing its backers to postpone the launch.

It had planned that the trust would fill the investment gap left by the takeover of Consolidated Gold Fields, Britain's premier mining finance house, by Hanson, and therefore would have appealed to a broad range of mining investors.

However, the current uncertainty over the outlook for the gold price — compounded by the \$20 one-day fall in the gold price on March 26 which sent shockwaves through the international mining investment community — has left investors unwilling to back a new fund solely committed to gold.

Gold closed at \$375 last night.

James Capel and Robert Fleming are now pinning their hopes on "a South African solution," which could pave the way for a second attempt to lift the gold fund off the ground by the summer.

One formula would see the trust listed both in London and Johannesburg, allowing South African investors to invest free of restrictive exchange control regulations.

Discussions are underway with the South African Reserve Bank to see whether funds could be swapped under a reciprocal agreement.

Norton shares soar on talk of possible deal with BTR

From John Durie, New York

SPECULATION of a possible deal between BTR and Norton, its US target, sent Norton's shares well over the BTR offer price in heavy trading on the New York Stock Exchange.

By midday 770,000 Norton shares had been traded, lifting the share price by \$1.50 to \$77.50, after opening at \$76.

This followed a \$3.25 share increase on Wednesday with 900,000 shares traded after BTR won a significant court victory against Norton.

A Boston federal court ruled that Norton had to reinstate the original date of its annual meeting to April 26, after the company had delayed to delay it for two months.

Mr John Cahill, the BTR

chief executive, said after the decision that BTR would go ahead with a proxy fight for control of the board. Between 50 and 70 per cent of Norton shareholders had tendered their shares to BTR under the \$75 a share offer launched on March 16, he said. The offer has been extended.

Norton, a chemicals and abrasives producer, has a wide open register with 70 per cent of the shares in the hands of institutions.

New York arbitrageurs were betting that Norton would attempt a friendly merger at between \$75-\$80 a share.

But spokesmen for both companies rejected any talk of early discussions. Norton has

searched for a white knight to help beat the BTR bid, but to date none has been found, prompting speculation that it may seek a deal with BTR.

The government of Massachusetts, Norton's home state, has given its full support to the local company and is trying to rush through legislation which would force staggered board elections. This would mean only one-third of the board could be changed at each annual meeting.

The earliest legislation could come into effect is April 21, which may be too late to save Norton.

But BTR's \$1.6 billion bid will most likely have to be increased to ensure control.

Erskine shares down 53p

SHARES in Erskine House Group, the photo-copier and facsimile machine distributor, tumbled 53p to 125p after a warning that the last quarter had been "difficult" and that profits would be lower than expected.

Mr Brian McGillivray, chairman, said results for the year ended March were likely to be about the same as last year's £15.1 million. The stock market had initially been looking for 1990 pre-tax profits of £22 million.

The warning overshadowed its announcement of its purchase of RW Schaefer Kopier & Bürosysteme, a photocopier dealer based in Hanover, West Germany, for DM4 million cash (£1.45 million).

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MEMBER OF LAITHRO

J Brown awarded contract in Texas

By Philip Pangalos

JOHN Brown, the engineering and construction subsidiary of Trafalgar House, has won a substantial multi-million dollar contract from Chevron Chemical for a polymer plant expansion in Orange, Texas.

John Brown will provide engineering and procurement for the expansion of the high-density polyethylene plant there. The entire project is valued at \$100 million and is the largest commitment Chevron has made in the Orange area since a similar plant was constructed in 1969.

The expansion will boost annual production capacity from 580 million lbs to 860 million lbs.

The polyethylene produced at Orange is used in manufacturing containers for milk, motor oil and also for detergent, plastic film and grocery bags.

Engineering on the project is now under way at John Brown's Houston office and will be completed early next year. This contract follows a string of big orders won by the Houston office this year, including one for Goodyear and one for Unocal.

The Goodyear, Unocal and Chevron contracts are believed to be worth a total of about \$100 million.

Propeller maker drives home parent firm's message

Vickers fights Brierley threat

THE shores of a remote lake in central Sweden are humming with the sound of Vickers polishing its image.

Proposals by Sir Ron Brierley and IEP Securities, his corporate vehicle, to demerge Rolls-Royce cars from the engineering group have put the spotlight on Vickers' products apart from cars and tanks.

Vickers' management, led by Sir David Plastow, chairman, has been stung by IEP's implication that Rolls-Royce apart, the company is a collection of mismatched, also-ran engineering businesses.

To keep Vickers whole it is important to make all its divisions appear attractive.

KaMeWa in Kristinehamn, central Sweden is one of the most far-flung outposts in the Vickers' empire. It is part of the marine engineering division which, with sales of £88 million and profit of £4.9 million, is the group's smallest.

KaMeWa is a world leader in marine propulsion. Its main products are controllable-pitch propellers. These have rotating blades which can slow a ship or put it into reverse without disengaging the engine and are becoming standard equipment on ferries and light naval ships.

Recently however the company has been successful in selling a new form of propul-

sion - the water jet. This powers a ship by sucking water from under the hull, feeding it through a turbine before expelling it astern. The jets can turn in either direction to steer a ship without a rudder.

They are so responsive that they can take a ship from 40 knots to 0 in twice its length. KaMeWa also makes advance electronic steering gear which makes controlling a passenger ferry look as easy as playing space invaders.

KaMeWa's jets, which cost an average of \$K1 million (£100,000) helped the *Gentry Eagle* beat the transatlantic crossing record last July. In all KaMeWa has 70 per cent of the world market for water jets and makes one quarter of its sales from them. The jets fit

perfectly with the better-mousetrap aspirations of Sir David and his followers - which is why they are keen to show them off.

Vickers bought KaMeWa for £14.6 million from the Swedish Axel Johnson group in 1986. The acquisition was part of the company's policy of being a market leader in all its products.

After its shipyards were nationalized in 1977, Vickers was left with a scattered rump of marine component businesses. Some were market leaders like Brown Brothers in Edinburgh which makes ship stabilizers. Stone Vickers, a propeller manufacturer in Greenwich, south London, does not have this advantage. But Vickers decided it wanted

to stay in the business and began to look for acquisitions to increase its size. The search led to Sweden. KaMeWa has not been the trouble-free addition Sir David might have hoped. It has been dogged by the price-cutting seen in all marine engineering. Profits were unacceptably low.

Six months ago the group appointed Mr Lars Ohlsson managing director. In the past year the company has shed 50 of its 570 workers and strengthened its marketing department. Now it has introduced a team working system in the main engineering plant to reduce staff turnover and absenteeism and speed up production.

Lake Vänern seems a long way from Vickers' manage-

ment struggle with Sir Ron. "We read everything we can about it but it's nothing I want to involve my company in," said Mr Ohlsson.

"Vickers is an old company and should be allowed the time to restructure itself."

He added: "I just want a strong mother company which can support me if I want to do something. Vickers gives me that."

In London, KaMeWa and Mr Ohlsson are pawns in a contest which will decide whether Vickers will be allowed to pursue its goal of engineering excellence which first brought it to Kristinehamn.

Neil Bennett
Kristinehamn

BUSINESS ROUNDUP

FKI wins contracts and makes £9m deals

CONTRACTS worth more than £40 million have been won by FKI, the electrical products group which two months ago gave a warning of a possible 20 per cent fall in its March year-end profits because of problems in America. It has begun to de-man parts of Babcock Industries in the US, whose poorer performance was blamed.

FKI, demerged from FKI Babcock last summer, also made five acquisitions recently for a total outlay of £9 million, including Columbia International, a specialist printing media business; Wheway Becker's UK-based chain business; Scada Systems, a radio communications business; SBS Computer Supplies; and a US-based industrial hand-truck and specialist caterer business.

Eglington profits slump

SHARES in Eglington Exploration, the Dublin-based mining group, dropped 3p to a record low of 48p on the Third Market after the company reported a dramatic fall in pre-tax profits from £191,159 (£89,000) - a figure boosted by asset sales - to £123,138 in 1989. Earnings per share dropped from 1.18p to 1.01p and no final dividend was declared.

Going steady at Chepstow

CHEPSTOW Racecourse, the racing proprietor turned property developer, filed profits slightly to £66,600 (£64,800) on a turnover of £1,250,000 (£1,100,000). Earnings per share were 10.67p (9.23p) and the dividend is 1p, the same as last year. In October it received outline permission for an adjoining 200-acre hotel and golf course. The shares were unchanged at £16.

Hadleigh buys Ripple

HADLEIGH Industries, the US vehicle trailer and engineering company, is acquiring Ripple Retail Concepts for a maximum £1.5 million, consisting of an initial payment of up to £330,000 and deferred sums of up to £1.17 million dependent on future pre-tax profits.

Ripple produces security show cabinets for retailers. It made pre-tax profits of £309,000 in the year to end-December 1988, on sales of £3.7 million, but a loss of £395,000 in the year to end-December 1989, due to zero sales growth and a lack of financial controls. The shares lost 2p to 183p.

Stena Line to buy Sealink

STENA Line, the Swedish ferry operator, said it is to acquire Sealink British Ferries from Stena AB, its privately-owned parent. Stena Line is to issue debt worth \$K800 million (£80 million) in one convertible debenture loan and two non-convertible debenture loans to finance the deal. Sealink is part of the assets of Sea Containers acquired by Tip-look and Stena.

US chemical firm slides

CAMBRIDGE Isotope Laboratories, the USM-listed American chemical products group, saw profits nosedive from \$1.03 million to \$367,000 in the year to end-November, after extra operating costs from the continuing delayed start-up of its Carbon 13 plant. There is again no dividend - last year CIL paid \$0.003 at half time. The shares, placed at 85p in April 1987, fell 1p to 8p.

Rolls £12.5m spin-off

FIRM orders for five Fokker 100 airlines will generate a £12.5 million spin-off for Rolls-Royce, whose Tay 650 engine powers the twinjet. Swissair, launch customer for the Fokker 100, has ordered a further two planes, for mid-1992 delivery, and has options on four more. GPA Fokker 100, based at Shannon, has 58 total orders, with options on another 42. Tay sales for the Fokker 100 topped 750 at end-1989.

Icelandair has launched the first of its three Rolls-Royce powered Boeing 757s, which will be used on European and transatlantic routes.

UTA to recruit high-flying chief

By Jon Ashworth

THE Unit Trust Association is to recruit a high-flying executive as part of a campaign to raise its public profile. The new figurehead will take office in October to take over the role of chief executive from Mr Tony Smith, who is expected to retire in January.

The UTA chairman, Mr John Fairbairn, told members that the new incumbent would take over the traditional chairman's role of industry figurehead and chief spokesman, in addition to running the UTA. He or she was likely to be in their forties, with business experience and a professional qualification, and "something of a high-flyer".

The cost of recruiting such a person would be passed on to members through increased

subscriptions. The salary is expected to be in line with those of senior directors in the City.

Mr Fairbairn, who completes his term as chairman next April, said the move was designed to bring more continuity to the UTA. "Their first job will be to assess opportunities and challenges for the UTA and write a business plan," he added. "We hope to have this agreed and put to members by Christmas."

Mr Smith is likely to stay on as a consultant to the UTA, to allow his successor to devote more time to the association's public image. He would advise on training and research, European developments and relations with the US.

Belgian boost for Brixton Estate

By Angela Mackay

RISE in rents and capital values in Belgium helped push Brixton Estate's pre-tax profits 26 per cent higher to £20.4 million in 1989.

Belgium's contribution was 30 per cent higher than previously reported. The 67,000 sq ft first phase of the Riverside Business Park at Anderlecht is almost finished, with Kraft signed as the major tenant. The second phase, of 55,000 sq ft, is about one-third finished.

Income climbed from

£29.68 million to £36.6 million. Earnings per share rose from 7.41p to 9.45p. A final dividend of 3.5p takes the full year payment to 6.10p (4.87p).

Brixton insulated itself from high interest rates by issuing £80 million of debentures and subsequently unwinding about £30 million of interest swaps at a large profit.

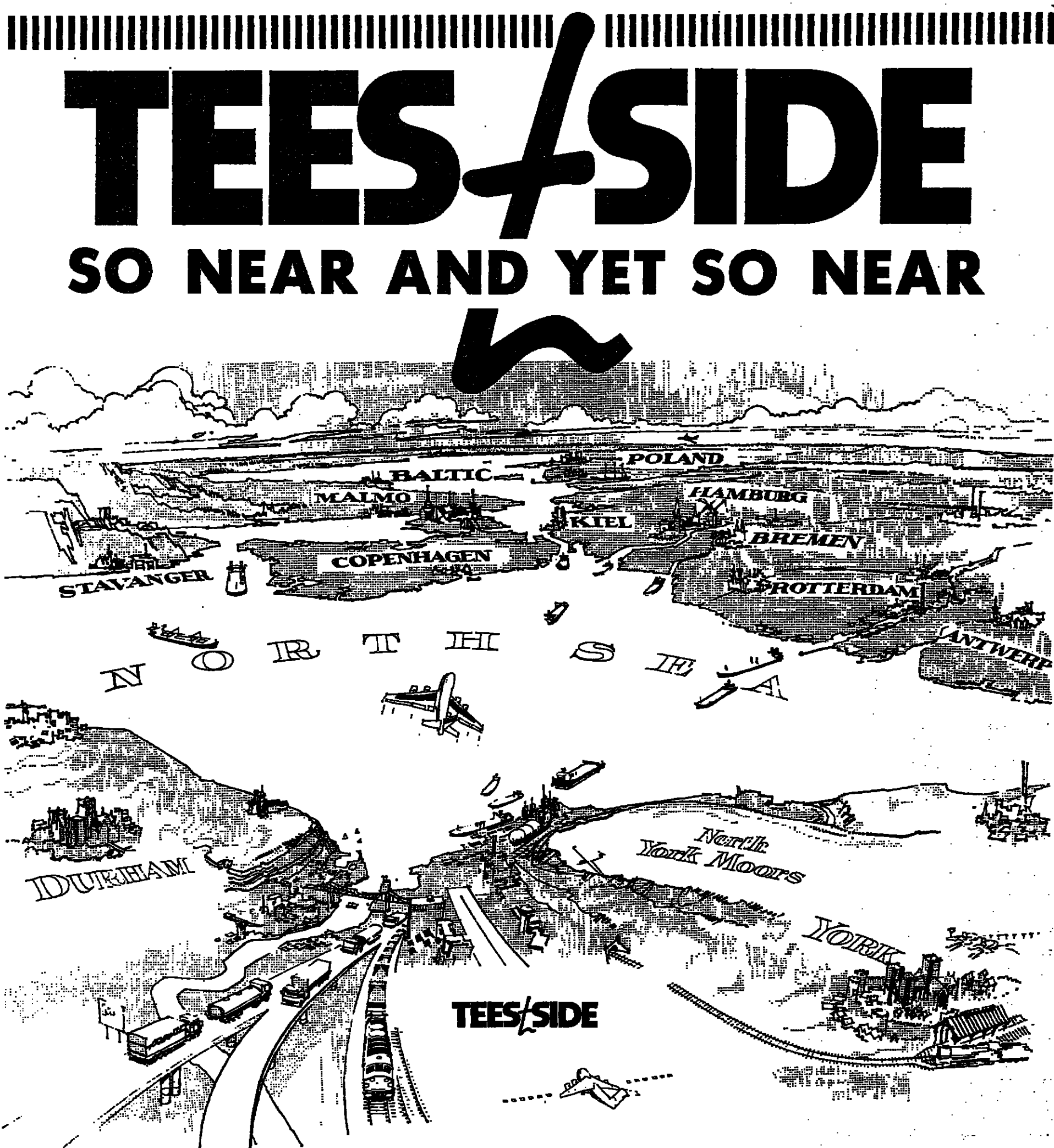
Brixton's major commercial projects in the UK include Texas Homecare in Croydon, Horsesham Business Park and a new 24-acre site in Staines.

RECENT ISSUES

EQUITIES		RIGHTS ISSUES	
ABN Leisure (120p)	118 -42	Alphabetic N/P	1 1/2 +1
ADG Group (140p)	97 -11	Calm Energy N/P	45 -5
Abstract New Euro (100p)	205 -42	Cranford N/P	1 -1
Argus Plc	88 -43	Kingsgrange N/P	10 -1
Bent Global Emorg (100p)	220	March Go N/P	10 -1
Bickington NW	220	Nestor-SNA N/P	23
Cable Int	300	Polytek N/P	72 -7
Chartwell	215	Simon Eng N/P	58
CompuLink	215	Templeton Epy N/P	58
Courtesy Tradies	259	(None price in brackets)	
Delta Go NW	348		
Eurocom	132 -1		
F&C German	120		
First Island (100p)	96 -13		
Garmore Emorg Pacific	96 -13		
German IT	90 -1		
Goldman	127		
Henderson Highland (100p)	92		
Mtn Currie Euro (100p)	105 -4		
Midland Pacific	145		
Novatel (100p)	99 -2		

TRADITIONAL OPTIONS

First Dealings	Last Dealings	Last Dealings	For Settlement
April 12	April 12	April 12	April 12
Call options were taken out on 12/4/90 Aberdeen Petroleum, Amstar, Apotex, Computar, Elex Water, Kwik-Fit, Midland Bank, Nard, Mecca Leisure, Tupperware, Pirelli, and Sanyo.			



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TEES/SIDE
Initiative Talent Ability

Siemens-Nixdorf link wins federal approval

By Our City Staff

SIEMENS, the West German electronics group, is confident of clearing all obstacles in its path to taking over Nixdorf, the troubled computer company.

The Federal Cartel Office in Berlin, Germany's monopoly and mergers authority, has approved the deal, and the green light is expected from the European Commission, which is also studying the acquisition.

Siemens, which is thought to have paid an estimated £1 billion for an initial 51 per

cent stake in Nixdorf, is still awaiting the approval of both sets of shareholders, who are due to hold their annual meetings within the next month.

Some analysts feared the Federal Cartel Office might insist that Nixdorf's profitable telecommunications business be sold off as Siemens has a strong presence in this sector. But unconditional approval has been given to the alliance, to be known as Siemens-Nixdorf Informationssysteme.

The European Commission revealed in January that it

intended to study the merger for any anti-competitive effects it might have on the computer market. The Commission has the power to intervene under articles 85 and 86 of the Treaty of Rome after a deal has taken place.

However, it is thought to agree with the Federal Cartel Office and is unlikely to take a different line from Berlin.

The Siemens-Nixdorf merger will create Europe's largest software house and second largest hardware company, with a turnover of about £4.2

billion. The fortunes of Nixdorf, one of the top six European computer groups, took a dive in 1988 when net profits slumped 90 per cent to just DM26 million (£9.5 million) after DM264 million the previous year.

Pre-tax losses for the first nine months of last year totalled DM465 million. It is estimated that operating losses for the whole of 1989 could reach DM1 billion.

Nixdorf is to shed 5,000 jobs and sell its Irish factory in Bray, near Dublin.

InishTech in £7m purchase

INISITECH, the plastic container maker, is to acquire the Droyhurst Group of Essex, an integrated design, printing and marketing company. The initial consideration will be £6.29 million with a further £1 million related to future performance. InishTech will be raising the cash portion of the consideration through a placing of 1.16 million new A shares at £5.15 (£5.02).

The James Cream Group will also convert its £1.25 million holding of loan notes into A shares. InishTech will have shareholders' funds of £1.32 million and borrowings of less than £500,000 after the acquisition and placing. Droyhurst has shown annual profits growth of 55 per cent during the last four years on annual sales growth of 30 per cent.

TR Far East up

TR Far East Income Trust's net revenue, after tax, expanded from £690,000 to £1.73 million in the six months to February 28. The board looks to the future "with enthusiasm." Meanwhile, there is a second interim dividend of 1p and a similar third interim.

Ferrari details

The open offer to investors in Ferrari Holdings, the computer services group, made in connection with the offer for Percom, will consist of 6 million 9.5 per cent cumulative convertible preference shares being issued at par.

NSM expansion

NSM, the open cast coal-mining company, is expanding its building materials and services division with the purchase of Coolplan, which distributes air-conditioning and refrigeration equipment, for £900,000.

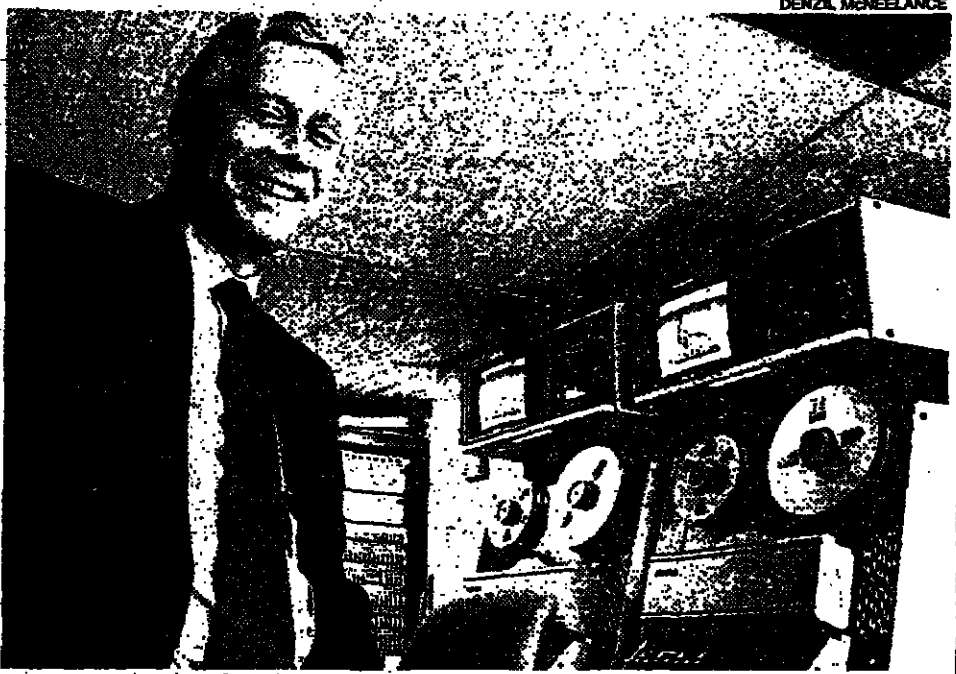
Toye higher

Toye & Co, the civil and military regalia group, pushed its pre-tax profits ahead from £523,000 to £690,000 in 1989. The final dividend is lifted by 1p to 8p from earnings per share up from 16.8p to 20.2p. Order books are a record.

Wagon deal

Wagon Industrial Holdings is buying the business and some assets of Viorod and Woods for £572,000. Viorod is a specialist fabricator of carbon and stainless steel process plant.

VTR profits rise 16%



Looking out for acquisition opportunities: John Banks, of VTR, yesterday

VTR, the Unlisted Securities Market company which provides post-production services for advertisers, musicians and television companies, lifted pre-tax profits by 16 per cent to £602,000 in the six months to end-February (Philip Pangalos writes).

The group, formerly known as Video Tape Recordings, saw turnover advance 43 per cent to £2.71 million. Earnings per share climb from 4.8p to 5p and the interim dividend is improved by 10 per cent to 1.1p.

Video Tape Recordings, the division which provides about 95 per cent of group profits,

continued to attract most of its turnover from work on television commercials.

The AV Department, which was acquired last June and provides audio visual services, offers opportunities for VTR in the fast-growing corporate post-production market. AV has been reorganized and recruited extra staff to prepare for an expansion in trading activities.

Mr John Banks, managing director, said he hoped AV's contribution to group profits could reach 20 per cent by the end of the financial year.

He said extensive refurbishment at premises in Dean

Street, Soho, which cost £750,000, is almost finished and £1.75 million of equipment is being installed, making the building one of the best-equipped digital facilities in Europe, offering services at the top end of the post-production market.

Mr Banks said the company will concentrate on organic growth, but will be "keeping an eye open for any nice acquisition opportunities." Gearing is about 5 per cent.

Mr Philip Lovegrove, chairman, said he was confident of another successful year. The shares were unchanged at 109p.

Mount Charlotte sells London hotel

By Our City Staff

MOUNT Charlotte Investments, the hotels group where Sir Ron Brierley's IEP has a 27.25 per cent stake, has completed the sale of the Lowndes Hotel in London as part of its £200 million disposal programme.

It said the 79-room four star hotel was bought for an undisclosed sum by Manor Holdings, a Guernsey company, on behalf of an overseas investor.

Mount Charlotte is committed to raising £200 million by this summer by selling hotels after last September's £645 million purchase of Thistle Hotels from Scottish & Newcastle Breweries. The company had been

looking for £24 million for the Lowndes, but Mr Robert Peel, chairman, would only say he was pleased with the price paid. It is believed the Lowndes made nearly £300,000 a room.

The group sold the Gosforth Park Hotel in Newcastle for £27.3 million, or about £160,000 a room, and the Cadogan Hotel, London for about £15 million, or £216,000 a room. This gives an average of about £200,000 a room, compared with between £135,000 and £145,000 at Thistle and brings the total realized so far to about £85 million, including the sale of the company's stake in Norfolk Capital Group.

BT's video telephone steps closer

THE age of the video telephone will come one step closer with the extension of British Telecom's state-of-the-art Integrated Services Digital Network (ISDN).

Launched last November, for tests, the service will move into a "market development stage" at the end of July with more customers and international interworking facilities.

From next January ISDN will become progressively available, reaching all digital exchanges serving businesses and high streets by end-1991.

Meanwhile, BT has increased its current note issue from £300 million to £400 million with the additional issue due in February 1993.

New glass firm has Waterford blessing

By A Correspondent

A NEW independent company supplying glass blanks under contract to Waterford Crystal is being set up by a retiring member of the board. Mr Billy Power, managing director of the Waterford Crystal division of the Waterford Wedgwood group, who is due to retire in the summer, is behind the venture.

The news comes as the strike by 2,300 workers at all three Waterford Crystal plants enters its second week with little sign of a settlement.

Mr Power's new venture is being aided by funds from Ireland's Industrial Development Authority and will be sited close to Waterford Crystal's own plants. It is expected to employ 50 people initially, including 20 of the workers laid off from Waterford Crystal two and a half years ago.

The new company will get its raw materials from Waterford Crystal and is expected to supply the equivalent of up to 10 per cent of what can now be produced in Waterford Crystal's own blowing rooms.

Other former Waterford Crystal executives are being linked with the venture, which has the approval of the Waterford Wedgwood board.

Meanwhile, Waterford Crystal's chief executive, Dr Paddy Galvin, has sent a four-page letter to all the striking workers, appealing to them to get their union to the negotiating table. He said he wants talks "without pre-conditions on either side."

Mr Walter Cullen, district officer of the Amalgamated Transport and General Workers Union, said that if the company was sincere in wanting no pre-conditions the workers would stop the strike and negotiate. But Mr Cullen said he wanted to know what the management meant by no pre-conditions.

He added that the management had not withdrawn the question of pay cuts and negotiations could only go ahead if the original situation was restored.

Owners delays date of agm

OWNERS Abroad, the travel company, has delayed its annual meeting from May 1 to May 16 and postponed its dividend payment until the same date because of its acquisition of Redwing, the tour operator, approved at an extraordinary meeting this week. The group said it wanted to include the deal in its report and accounts.

COMMENT

Pay pressures adding to inflationary woes

THE most worrying development in the latest economic statistics was the innocent-seeming rise in the retail price index minus mortgage interest payments. In the 12 months to March, this increased by 6.3 per cent compared with 6.2 per cent in the 12 months to February.

The all-items rate of inflation jumped by much more — from 7.5 to 8.1 per cent and is certain to rise further. But this "headline" rate of inflation can give a perverse impression when the first effect of increases in taxes and interest rates designed to bring down inflation is apparently to push it up.

Underlying inflation reflects more closely the real inflationary pressures in the economy — and these are increasing. After four months of inflation ex-mortgage interest payments at 6.1 per cent, this measure has risen in the past two months. As the producer price indices showed on Monday, the increases imposed by manufacturers have accelerated, despite falling inflation in the costs of materials and fuel. Pay pressures are increasing — witness the acceleration in average earnings from 9% to 9% per cent — and retailers are passing on the increases they are being charged.

After 18 months of high interest rates

Property's threat to credit

THE write-offs on housing land and doubts over property values in Britain are as nothing to the pressures in the United States and Japan, in part because interest rates have been in double figures for most of the past half-decade. Property problems have become the leading threat to private debt markets in the United States ever since the collapse of much of the savings and loan industry, which caused a large new source of property loans to dry up.

Moody's Investors Service, the credit agency, cites falling property prices as the biggest factor in a sharp deterioration in credit ratings which has been gathering pace over the past year. In the first quarter of 1990, Moody's downgraded the credit ratings of 95 US corporations with \$75 billion of debt and upgraded only 23 (with \$26 billion of debt). The 4-to-1 ratio compares with 2.5-to-1 during the whole of 1989, although some of the upgrades were big groups such as Texaco and Deere.

More than half the downgradings were ultimately due to falling property prices. This has meant that the credit of the financial sector particularly has come under strain, because it has been combined with the fall in prices of junk bonds, exemplified in the Drexel collapse. First-quarter downgradings included 43 banks, securities houses and other finance groups.

Life has become so hard on the junk heap that a whole category of finance,

it is alarming to find the underlying rate of inflation still rising. This may change as the steady fall in unemployment is reversed. The last two months have shown a clear break with the previous trend, with the seasonally adjusted monthly fall in unemployment down to 2,000 in February and 7,000 in March, compared with an average of about 20,000 in the final quarter of last year. If it becomes more difficult to find a job that will help to moderate wage demands.

Downward pressure on wage demands from rising unemployment will be just as well because in the short term there will also be strong pressures in the other direction. The headline rate of inflation is set to rise a good deal further, helped by the effect of excise duty increases in the Budget and the impact of the poll tax, which is now expected to add a full 1.4 per cent to the rate of inflation. The spectre of a peak rate of inflation in double figures has become more solid.

Ultimately this is less important than the underlying trend, but pay bargainers will understandably be influenced by the headline rate. By this time next year inflation is likely to be considerably lower, but the higher pay rises are along the way, the more tears there will be.

used mainly but not exclusively for leveraged buyouts and bids, has largely dried up. As the unfolding BTR bid for Norton is likely to show, that is having a marked effect on the prices of takeover bids; the almost automatic alternative of a leveraged buyout is no longer there to guarantee a bidding competition.

The reversal of soaring land values in Japan, based on a proportionately dramatic rise in interest rates from extremely low levels, is only just beginning to bite. The effect on the Japanese financial system of a combination of falling land and share prices, each reinforcing the other, may only just be beginning. Moreover, Japanese banks were prominent in later US leveraged junk bond deals and have become a late force in property finance in Britain, against the advice of the Bank of England.

Having downgraded the ratings of several Japanese trust banks, Moody's is about to do the same to some mainline banks, though stopping short of a general downgrading of institutions that have, until now, enjoyed high marks for their debt. The fear is that some have been financing property deals on the basis that loans will be serviced from capital gains from soaring land prices rather than cash flow from development.

In a market driven by international bank competition, the upshot will surely be a further shrinkage of property lending in Britain and other markets

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size as Europe in terms of buying power, it is already 'open for business' as a single market moving toward genuinely free trade.

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Skating around LET

MY APOLOGIES for returning to the good burghers of Richmond, Surrey, for the third time in a week, but it appears the purchase by the Swedish SPP insurance group of London & Edinburgh Trust has come as something of a bombshell to them. Their concern was initially over the future of the world-famous ice rink there, the property of LET. Fright scenes in the council-room have seen allegations that Richmond has already given away its bargaining position by allowing LET to develop the site without nailing down its plans for a replacement, leaving the borough reliant on the goodwill of the property developers, according to the Tory opposition. The arrival of the boarding party from Sweden prompted suggestions that the Swedes may be even less enthusiastic than LET to replace the rink. The final blow fell within days of the bid, when LET announced it was closing its Owen Owen department store in George Street, one of the landmarks of the district, as it was no longer "economically viable." As the borough wonders what other shocks LET and its soon-to-be new owners have for it, the local Labour candidate, Simon Fowler, fulminates on the company's "baleful" influence on the borough and wonders: "It would be fascinating to discover how much more of Richmond is actually owned by the London & Edinburgh Trust."

THE TIMES CITY DIARY

Edge on the treadmill

A CAREER in the City should have well-prepared Christopher Edge, head of research at Stock Group, for his appointment next week with a real-life treadmill. Christopher has been so foolish as to choose to run in the London Marathon on April 22, on behalf of Bob Champion's Cancer Trust. A good friend of the Trust is Dr Peter Williams, former adviser on

health matters to the British Olympics athletic team, and he has offered the facilities of his New Cavendish Centre clinic, close to Harley Street, to help assess Christopher's fitness. The aspiring marathon man will be tested on a treadmill, which will allow him to set a reasonable target for the time taken to complete the marathon as a guide to his sponsors.

Hunter caught

THE Viking invasion of British corporate life continues apace. Alexander Hughes & Associates, the head-hunter who persuaded Geoff Mulcahy to lead Woolies, has been acquired by Sweden's Indevco, a management consultancy group. As demand is rising for executives who can tackle the pan-European jobs

now developing, the head-hunter's thrust will be equally pan-European, according to Ian Tetter, the Alexander Hughes managing director who occupies the same slot with the new set-up, to be known as Alexander Hughes SES. Indevco's specialities include executive search, and the £40 million annual turnover group is expanding this side of its operations worldwide through its subsidiary SES, Scandinavia's leading head-hunters. SES owns the Stevenson group in the United States and has also put down roots in Spain and Italy.

Connor news

TERRY Connor, rated the number one newspaper analyst in the 1989 Ertel survey, is joining Smith New Court as soon as his period of purdah is over. He joins from his current billet, James Capel, and fills yet another slot in SNC's fast-growing team.

Puzzle for Disney

THE Disney Corporation is increasingly baffled by news reports that the local and much nastier equivalent of the Mafia, the Camorra, has been rebuffed for now in its bid to amass huge profits from the Disneyland amusement park planned for the north of Naples. The problem is that neither the Disney people nor their spin-off this side of the Atlantic, Euro Disneyland, is building out there. Mickey Mouse is extraordinarily sensitive about the use of his various trademarks, and headlines that have him cuddling up with the Mafia are the US corporate equivalent of "Queen Elspeth with Pope." Euro Disneyland in Paris was clearly baffled. "We've no plans to build anything in Italy," a spokesman said. "There's no relation to the Walt Disney Company in any way." The Disney people are now consulting their lawyers about issuing a full retraction, but, as my source said, "sometimes things are so ludicrous that it's better not to say anything."

● LLOYD'S of London has managed a timely trick in its contribution to the Spitalfields Festival on behalf of the Business in the Community charity. It had booked Nicola Loud, aged 15, regarded as a promising young violinist, to play in June. But this will now be Nicola's first appearance after winning the BBC's Young Musician of the Year competition last weekend.

Martin Waller

STOCK MARKET

Rival drug fears hit Wellcome

Retail sales are considered a key economic indicator as

Shares closed firmer but well off their late-afternoon peaks in thin, but volatile tradings. Brokers attempting to profit on positions before yesterday's expiration of April

Both analysts remain convinced that this product is not a significant medium-term threat to Wellcome's Retrovir, which is still the only approved Aids drug. ML Laboratories, which is quoted on

helped by a confident start on Wall Street where prices continued to edge towards record highs. After fluctuating in narrow limits throughout the morning, the FT-SE 1000

the ticker, including 315,000 British Gas, 1p firmer at 209p, 216,000 Grand Metropolitan, up 6p at 583p, 453,000 Marks and Spencer, ½p lighter at 199p, 216,000 ECC Group, 1p harder at 358p, 225,000 Banks

lying shares have also been whittled away. Falls were seen in Anglian, 1p to 142p, North West, 2p to 140p, Thames, 2p to 132p, Welsh, 3p to 165p, Wessex, 1p to 140p, and Yorkshire, 3p to 160p. South-

The rest of the property sector also showed signs of running out of steam after the heady gains seen this week. Hammerson fell 16p to 798½p in the ordinary and 10p to

Body Shop jumped 29p to 467½p after confirmation that it had linked-up with Jusco,

Polly Peck, the fruit packaging and electronics group, firmed another 3p to 407½p after a number of meetings

Michael Clark

Michael Clark

options pushed the Nikkei up. Bargain-hunting in electrical issues helped. Mr Yoshie Shimoyama, the head of equities at Nikko Securities, said: "It has been a volatile market. Real buying was limited, centering on several specific shares as well as blue-chip electrical and pharmaceutical issues." Turnover was only about 430 million shares compared with Wednesday's 500 million. The index fluctuated rapidly, particularly in the afternoon.

It rose by 250 points after the opening, and down almost 200 at midday and down 312 in the early afternoon. In addition to technical manipulation of the index, bargain-hunting mixed with profit-taking to create volatility.

The listless performance of the broader market suggested that index-linked buying focused mainly on the Nikkei.

(Reuters)

fund managers, including Kleinwort Benson which led the buying of Glaxo yesterday. A spokesman for Glaxo said it had nothing to add to its original statement.

Mr Jonathan de Pass, a pharmaceuticals analyst at Barclays de Zoete Wedd, said that it was early days yet and that testing would continue for sometime. Mr Andrew Porter at Nikko Securities said: "Our view remains that, while the IAF venture is interesting and may lead to potential Aids therapies, it will be four years or so before a product arrives on the market — even if given quick approval."

Both analysts remain convinced that this product is not a significant medium-term threat to Wellcome's Retrovir, which is still the only approved Aids drug. ML Laboratories, which is quoted on

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New chief stirs things up at Campbell Soup

WALL Street gives David Johnson two years to restore Campbell Soup Company's profits performance or the company will face a certain takeover.

The Australian is also given a very good chance of achieving this objective by the same Wall Street analysts who for many years have written off Campbell as an also-ran in the US food sector.

Mr Johnson, aged 57, walked into a potential minefield when he took over as chief executive of Campbell in January after turning around Gerber Products, the babyfood producer.

The Dorance family, which controls 48 per cent of Campbell, showed signs of splitting last year and its chairman, Mr Robert Vlasic, had floated plans to merge with the larger, more successful Quaker Oats.

Mr Len Teitelbaum, a Merrill Lynch analyst, described Mr Johnson as "outstanding, he knows how to make a decision, importantly when to make it, and is a very good analyst of information."

In an interview with *The Times*, Mr Johnson outlined his plans to take the company from near the bottom of the US food sector in terms of profit and return on equity performance to near the top as

quickly as possible. Campbell Soup ranks with Coca-Cola and McDonald's as the best-known US brand names, but its profit performance has long disappointed Wall Street.

Over the last five years its average return on equity was 15.4 per cent against the industry leader, Kellogg, which achieved a 43.7 per cent return. In terms of sales

reorganized his north American operations, bringing the Canadian business under control of the US chief, Mr Herb Baum.

Mr Johnson at Gerber made some of the improvements through asset sales. But the Wheat First Securities analyst Mr John Maxwell said his task at Campbell will be harder because there are no obvious things to sell. "It is just a matter of getting better returns on the existing business."

Mr Teitelbaum said: "Mr Johnson will achieve his aims if he uses the same approach he did at Gerber using discipline, reduction of fixed costs, control over variable costs and better use of capital."

Mr Johnson supports this prognosis saying attention to the bottom line will be the only thing that keeps the company independent. "The company is poised to be one of the best food companies in the world, it has got very good brands and very good brains. We just need to concentrate on the bottom line," he said.

Wall Street is giving Mr Johnson the benefit of the doubt and the company is now trading at near its one-year high of \$60 a share.

John Durie
New York

● The company is poised to be one of the best food companies in the world . . . We just need to concentrate on the bottom line ●

growth, Campbell has improved by only 7.9 per cent over five years against 33.5 per cent for Conagra and earnings per share growth has been a poor 8.2 per cent against 32.6 per cent for Quaker Oats.

Mr Johnson has put early emphasis on the international division which last year made an \$80.9 million loss on sales of \$1.5 billion. This loss, after a \$152.8 million restructuring charge, compared with total company sales of \$5.7 billion and a net profit of \$13.1 million.

The company has moved quickly to fix Freshbake, its British frozen food opera-

per cent of the company's British workforce.

Mr Johnson, who prides himself on attention to the bottom line, quickly added: "This has meant an increase in plant capacity of 60-80 per cent and an increase in productivity per employee of 20 per cent."

Next on the list of restructurings is Lazzaroni, the Italian biscuit operations, which is also performing badly.

Campbell was a steady buyer in the European market last year, but Mr Johnson does not see Europe as being a source of rapid growth over the next few years. He has

Pickens challenges tie-up deals by Japan car makers

Tokyo THE Texas oilman and investor Mr T. Boone Pickens has asked Japan's Fair Trade Commission (FTC) to examine whether exclusive business arrangements between Japanese car makers and parts suppliers violate anti-trust laws, a lawyer for his Boone Corp said in a statement.

This is the first time that Mr Pickens, who has a reputation in the US as a canny corporate raider, has challenged the Japanese car industry's business alliances.

Mr Pickens has a vested interest: he holds 26.4 per cent of Koito Manufacturing, a leading parts maker that is affiliated to Toyota, its second-ranked shareholder with 19 per cent.



Pickens corporate raider

Mr Pickens said in the complaint filed with the FTC that Japan's 11 car makers force component makers to supply their products at unfairly low prices, in violation of the anti-monopoly law.

These close relationships restrict competition among parts makers and hinder the entry of other firms, especially foreign ones, into the Japanese market, it said.

The US Federal Trade Commission began a similar investigation last Friday and the US House of Representatives committee of jurists will hold a hearing in early May on Japan's car parts trade, the statement said.

Earlier this year Mr Pickens filed a lawsuit in Tokyo against Koito in an attempt to gain access to Koito's accounts. Last December, Koito rejected Pickens' requests to nominate four seats on the Koito board, on which Toyota has three.

Economists in Labour poll vote

A NARROW majority of 51 per cent of Britain's leading economists now think that a Labour government would be good for the economy, according to an opinion poll published in the *Economist* magazine.

Only 37 per cent of the 77 City and academic economists polled considered that Labour would be bad for the economy, while 12 per cent saw a political switch making no difference.

Some two-thirds put Mr John Smith, the Shadow Chancellor, ahead of Mr John Major when asked who would make a better holder of that office. Labour's alternative to the poll tax scored higher than the Community Charge.

(Reuters)

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Law Report April 13 1990 Court of Appeal

Injured passenger cannot sue

Pitts v Hunt and Another

Before Lord Justice Dillon, Lord Justice Balcombe and Lord Justice Beldam [Judgment April 4]

Where after an evening of heavy drinking the rider of a motor cycle, aided and abetted by his passenger, illegally drove the cycle on a public road in a dangerous manner which resulted in the death and injuries to the passenger, the passenger could maintain no claim in negligence against the estate of the rider.

The Court of Appeal so held in reserved judgments in dismissing an appeal by the plaintiff, Andrew James Pitts, from Judge Follis QC sitting in Bristol as a High Court judge in the Winchester District Registry, (1989) 3 WLR 795

who had dismissed the plaintiff's claim in negligence against the first defendant, the personal representatives of Mark James Hunt, the rider of the motor cycle, who was killed in the accident. Leave to appeal was granted.

The court also stated that section 148(3) of the Road Traffic Act 1972, now replaced by section 149 of the Road Traffic Act 1988, precluded the defendant from relying on the defence of *volenti non fit injuria* and that it had not been open to the trial judge to make a finding of 100 per cent contributory negligence by the plaintiff.

There was no appeal from the judge's dismissal of the plaintiff's claim against the second defendant, Mr Richard Mark Jewell, the driver of a car involved in the accident.

Mr John Peppitt, QC and Mr Anthony Coleman for the plaintiff; William Barnett, QC and Mr Richard Hetherington for the first defendants.

LORD JUSTICE BELDAM said that on September 10, 1983, Mark Hunt, then aged 16, and his friend the plaintiff, aged 18, went to a discotheque in Shipston. Mark had a motor cycle which he used as a trail bike, but the plaintiff knew he did not have a licence and was not insured to use the cycle on a road.

The two drank far more than was good for them, and at 11.15pm set off on the cycle with Mark driving. The effects of intoxication exerted themselves, and they behaved in a reckless, irresponsible and idiotic way.

Two army officers walking along the road saw the cycle being driven from side to side of the road and travelling at about 30mph. The horn was being blown and the riders were shouting "boony" and "yippee".

The cycle appeared to be coming directly towards the officers and they had to move on to the verge to get out of the way.

The rider and passenger were clearly showing no concern for other road users and the judge drew the inference that they were deliberately riding in a way calculated to frighten others.

The cycle struck a car being driven by the second defendant at a reasonable speed and on the contrary side of the road. The injuries received by the rider were fatal and the plaintiff sustained injuries which had left him permanently partially disabled.

The judge found that the plaintiff was at least aiding and abetting both the reckless and dangerous driving by the rider, who was under age, drunk and uninsured, and the deliberate purpose of frightening other road users.

The judge considered the defences raised by the first defendants and held - which was the principal issue in the appeal - that the action failed by reason of the maxim *ex turpi causa non oritur actio*.

It had been a rule of public policy since *Hobbs v Johnson* (1875) 1 QWP 341 that a court would not lend its aid to a person who founded his cause of action on an illegal or immoral act.

That rule had been held to extend to cases where an insured had sought indemnity under a policy of insurance for liability caused through his own unlawful act, but cases involving the use of a motor vehicle on a highway had been treated exceptionally.

A distinction had been drawn between accidents resulting from intentional acts, where indemnity would be denied, and those where the act was grossly negligent but unintentional.

His Lordship considered a number of authorities and said that they illustrated that the court had adjusted the application of the maxim to changing social conditions, and in particular to the policy underlying the road traffic Acts.

Decisions in other jurisdictions, where there might be different social attitudes, were of secondary guidance, although of course entitled to respect and consideration.

The authorities established that it was the conduct of the person seeking to base his claim on an unlawful act that was determinative of the application of the maxim.

Mr Peppitt drew attention to the test applied by Mr Justice Hutchison in *Winnick v Dick* (1984) 1 All ER 676, 687 which "involved the court looking at the quality of the illegality relied on by the defendant and all the surrounding circumstances, without fine distinctions, and seeking to answer two questions: first, whether there had been illegality of which the court should take notice; and second, whether in all the circumstances it would be an affront to the public conscience if by affording him the relief sought the court was seen to be indirectly assisting or encouraging the plaintiff in his criminal act."

The view of Lord Justice Bingham in *Stander v Edwards* (1987) 1 WLR 1116 (where Mr Justice Hutchison's test was approved) was that the courts had tended to adopt a pragmatic approach where it was possible to see that genuine wrongs were righted so long as the court did not thereby promote or countenance a nefarious object or bargain which it was bound to consider in the circumstances.

If the driver and passenger of a motor vehicle jointly committed an offence or series of offences, so serious that the driver was precluded on the ground of public policy from claiming indemnity under a policy of insurance, it was not to be expected that the passenger would be precluded from claiming compensation.

It was argued that the defendant would be disadvantaged by the regulator's order because of the effect of the 1838 Act which provided that every judgment debt should carry interest at the rate of 15 per cent per annum from the date of judgment. The defendant would have to pay interest at 15 per cent upon such sum as was eventually agreed by the parties or assessed by the court.

The short term investment rate was currently 13 per cent. A plaintiff would normally expect interest on the damages at the half that rate from the date of the accident until judgment, on the damages for pain and suffering at 2 per cent from the date of service of the writ until judgment, and on the balance of the damages at 15 per cent on the whole award.

The defendant's second point related to costs. *Hunt v A. M. Douglas (Roadways) Ltd* (1988) 3 WLR 975 decided that a lit-

On the facts found by the judge the plaintiff was playing a full and active part in encouraging the rider to commit offences which, if the death of anyone else had occurred, would have amounted to manslaughter.

It would have been manslaughter by virtue not of gross negligence but of a dangerous act done either with the intention of frightening other road users or with reckless disregard for the consequences, by reason of self-induced intoxication.

In those circumstances, the plaintiff was precluded on the ground of public policy from recovering compensation.

It was not desirable to attempt further to categorise the degrees of seriousness involved in offences which would not preclude recovery of compensation, but the public attitude had changed markedly with the increasing number of drink-related accidents, and the public conscience was increasingly being focused not only on those who committed the offence but also on those who asked the driver to drink and drive.

A further issue in the appeal concerned the defence of *volenti*. Although it was obvious that the plaintiff had voluntarily undertaken to run the risk of injury by taking part in a foolhardy and illegal act, section 148(3) of the 1972 Act clearly meant that it was no longer open to the driver of a motor vehicle to say that the fact of his passenger travelling in the vehicle in which it would be said that he had willingly accepted a risk of negligence on the driver's part, relieved the driver of liability for such negligence.

The authorities supported by the Scottish decision of *Winnick v Dick* (1984) 1 SLT 185, and his Lordship arrived at that conclusion with some relief as the rights of a passenger should not suffer a change as the vehicle crossed the border between England and Scotland.

The final issue concerned the judge's decision that the plaintiff would have had any damages reduced to nil by reason of his own fault.

Although it was strictly unnecessary to express a view, the judge was wrong in that decision.

Section 1 of the Law Reform (Contributory Negligence) Act 1945 began with the premise that the person suffered damage as a result partly of his own fault and partly of the fault of some other person or persons. Further provisions in the Act presupposed that the person suffering the damage would recover some damages.

There could not therefore be a finding of 100 per cent contributory negligence.

LORD JUSTICE BALCOMBE, concurring in the majority, said that as the present the ritual incantation of the maxim *ex turpi causa* was more likely to confuse than to illuminate.

His Lordship preferred to adopt the approach of the majority in the present case, *Jackson v Harrison* (1978) 138 CLR 438, which was to consider what would have been the cause of action had there been no joint illegal enterprise, and then to consider whether the circumstances were such as to preclude the existence of that cause of action.

That approach enabled the court to differentiate between joint enterprises which, although involving a contravention of the criminal law, were not such as to displace the court from determining the standard of care to be observed, and those where it was impossible to determine the standard of care to be observed. Although an assessment of the degree of moral turpitude became unnecessary if one adopted the *Jackson* approach, there was moral turpitude of a high degree in the present case, if it was relevant.

His Lordship agreed with Lord Justice Dillon that the position under the present law was not affected by section 148(3) of the 1972 Act.

LORD JUSTICE DILLON, also concurring, said, on the principal issue, that the actual circumstances in which the courts in Australia (where the matter had arisen more often than in England in a road traffic context) had held that a passenger injured by the "negligence" of the driver of a motor vehicle in a joint criminal enterprise could not recover damages, were clear.

But the reasoning by which those courts had reached their conclusions from common law principles was less clear, and there was the problem of how the Australian approach was reconcilable with recent developments in the English courts, also purportedly based on common law principles, in cases, starting with *Tinsford*, in which the judge below was not referred.

His Lordship surveyed the authorities and said that he did not find the "public conscience" test satisfactory. One reason was that appeal to the public conscience would be likely to lead to a graph of illegality according to moral turpitude. The difficulty of formulating a criterion for assessing cases of serious illegality from ones which were not so serious was insoluble.

Lord Justice Bingham's dichotomy in *Stander v Edwards* between cases where the plaintiff's action in truth arose directly *ex turpi causa* and cases where the plaintiff had suffered damage as a result of the defendant's wrongful conduct was incidental avoided that difficulty.

On a distillation of the law that had evolved in Australia, the position that had been reached there was that for relief to be denied on the ground of illegality, the circumstances of the joint venture in the course of which the accident occurred had to be such as to negate, as between the plaintiff and defendant, any ordinary standard of care.

There was no valid distinction between the reckless driving in the present case and the reckless driving of the car which, albeit stolen, in *Smith v Jenkins* (1970) 119 CLR 397, and *Bandarenko v Sommers* (1967) 69 SR (NSW) 269. In Lord Justice Bingham's formulation, the plaintiff's action arose directly *ex turpi causa*.

Section 148(3) of the 1972 Act did not affect *ex turpi causa* because it was concerned to preclude a defence of *volenti*, and not with any defence of illegality.

The words "agreement or understanding" in the section did not contemplate an illegal agreement, express or tacit, to carry out an illegal purpose.

Solicitors: Kenwright & Cox for Tahob Davies & Copner, Andover; Lampert Bassitt, Southampton.

Interest amount no bar to summary judgment

O'Connor v Ames Bridgman Abattoirs Ltd

Before Mr Justice Scott Baker [Judgment March 7]

The fact that a plaintiff might, because of the effects of section 17 of the Judgments Act 1838, receive an unfairly large amount of interest on the damages ultimately awarded to him, was not a reason for depriving him of a summary judgment, under Order 14 of the Rules of the Supreme Court, to which he would otherwise be entitled.

Mr Justice Scott Baker, sitting in the Queen's Bench Division at Exeter Castle, so held in a chambers judgment, reported with his Lordship's permission, dismissed an appeal by the defendant, Ames Bridgman Abattoirs Ltd, trading as Mid Devon Meat, against a decision of Mr District Registrar Lewis granting leave to the plaintiff, Kevin O'Connor, to enter summary judgment for damages to be assessed.

Mr David Gerrey for the plaintiff; Mr Christopher Sharp for the defendant.

MR JUSTICE SCOTT

In re H (Minors) Before Lord Justice Glidewell, Lord Justice Stocker and Lord Justice Butler-Sloss [Judgment March 29]

Where children had been taken out of the jurisdiction by their paternal grandfather and the mother then had them made wards of court and obtained an order for interim care and control, the court exceeded its jurisdiction in ordering that the father provide a surety of £25,000 from a member of his family to be forfeited if the minors were not returned to the jurisdiction within 21 days.

The Court of Appeal so held in allowing an appeal against such an order, made by Mr Justice Anthony Lincoln, and allowing an application for leave to appeal out of time, by the father of three minors who had been taken to Pakistan by their paternal grandfather.

Mr T. A. C. Coningsby, QC and Mr Stuart R. Neale for the father; Mr Rodger Hayward-Smith, QC and Mr Rodric Wood for the mother.

LORD JUSTICE BUTLER-SLOSS said that it was accepted that the wording of the order was inconsistent in that the requirement that the minors be returned within 21 days was inconsistent with the acceptance of the father's undertaking to use his best endeavours to return the children to the care and control of their mother.

BAKER said that the plaintiff's claim was for damages for personal injuries. The only issue remaining was quantum of damages.

It was argued that the defendant would be disadvantaged by the regulator's order because of the effect of the 1838 Act which provided that every judgment debt should carry interest at the rate of 15 per cent per annum from the date of judgment. The defendant would have to pay interest at 15 per cent upon such sum as was eventually agreed by the parties or assessed by the court.

The short term investment rate was currently 13 per cent. A plaintiff would normally expect interest on the damages at the half that rate from the date of the accident until judgment, on the damages for pain and suffering at 2 per cent from the date of service of the writ until judgment, and on the balance of the damages at 15 per cent on the whole award.

The defendant's second point related to costs. *Hunt v A. M. Douglas (Roadways) Ltd* (1988) 3 WLR 975 decided that a lit-

gant who had been awarded costs was entitled to interest on those costs from the date of judgment rather than the date the taxation of costs was completed.

It was argued that the effect in the present case was that the plaintiff was entitled to interest on his costs from the date of summary judgment. While that might be all very well for costs already incurred, most of the costs were likely to be incurred in the future, and the assessment of damages and interest was postponed to be compensation for being kept out of one's money and not a windfall.

His Lordship considered *European Asian Bank v Puntab & Sind Bank (No 2)* (1983) 1 All ER 642 and *Patty v Burnard* (1978) 1 WLR 1116, and said that he did not accept that the residual discretion under Order 14 was sufficiently wide for a court to make an order in such a form as not to bring an Order 14 judgment within the terms of section 17 of the 1838 Act.

The defendant's complaint in the present case related to the consequences of a judgment on

liability. The fact that the consequences of giving judgment for the plaintiff might result in an unjust result as regards interest on the damages that might ultimately be awarded was not a good reason for depriving the plaintiff of a judgment to which he was otherwise entitled.

If Order 14 judgment were refused the defendant would have no answer to an immediate trial on liability. But the trial would be a non-event. The defendant could advance no reason why the plaintiff should not succeed.

The answer to the defendant's grievance was that the court ought to have some discretion under section 17 of the 1838 Act as to whether to award interest on damages and costs. Unfortunately, there was no such discretion.

It would not be right to deprive the plaintiff of a judgment to which he was entitled because the consequences of the judgment would be particularly disadvantageous to the defendant.

Solicitors: Bond Pearce, Exeter; Dunn & Baker, Exeter.

No power to order surety for minors

In re H (Minors)

Before Lord Justice Glidewell, Lord Justice Stocker and Lord Justice Butler-Sloss [Judgment March 29]

Where children had been taken out of the jurisdiction by their paternal grandfather and the mother then had them made wards of court and obtained an order for interim care and control, the court exceeded its jurisdiction in ordering that the father provide a surety of £25,000 from a member of his family to be forfeited if the minors were not returned to the jurisdiction within 21 days.

The Court of Appeal so held in allowing an appeal against such an order, made by Mr Justice Anthony Lincoln, and allowing an application for leave to appeal out of time, by the father of three minors who had been taken to Pakistan by their paternal grandfather.

Mr T. A. C. Coningsby, QC and Mr Stuart R. Neale for the father; Mr Rodger Hayward-Smith, QC and Mr Rodric Wood for the mother.

LORD JUSTICE BUTLER-SLOSS said that it was accepted that the wording of the order was inconsistent in that the requirement that the minors be returned within 21 days was inconsistent with the acceptance of the father's undertaking to use his best endeavours to return the children to the care and control of their mother.

Although the wardship jurisdiction was wide it did have limits: see *In re X (a Minor)* (1975) Fam 47.

To the knowledge of the court and counsel there was no precedent for the order made by the judge.

The usual circumstances in which a bond was required was where a parent wished to take children out of the jurisdiction on an access visit and it was used to encourage their return. The normal practice was for their father to be consent to a bond as a condition of the order - not for it to be imposed.

That was far removed from the facts in the instant case where the children had been removed before the order had been made and the father had undertaken to use his best endeavours to bring them back. In such circumstances the order required the surety to guarantee what he could not fulfil.

It had not been satisfactory for the court to order the father to provide a surety from his family without examining who the surety was, whether he understood the nature of his obligation, and whether the money was actually available.

The order had been designed to put pressure on the wider family but, on the facts, the imposition of an surety at such an early stage was premature. In the absence of an express finding that the father had been discriminated against unlawfully in the course of her employment by Cornwall

removal of the children the propriety and effectiveness of using the procedure was doubted.

This was not a case to extend the limits in which the wardship jurisdiction could be exercised.

Her Ladyship emphasized that nothing should be taken as approving the removal of the children from England and no one had any right to keep them out of the jurisdiction.

LORD JUSTICE STOCKER and LORD JUSTICE GLIDWELL delivered concurring judgments.

Solicitors: Afzal, Walthamstow for Aziz & Co, Manchester; Clinton Davis Cushing & Kelly, Clapton.

Discrimination will normally be inferred from primary facts

Baker v Cornwall County Council

Before Lord Justice Neill, Lord Justice Glidewell and Lord Justice Beldam [Judgment March 28]

In cases of alleged discrimination, direct evidence of discrimination was seldom going to be available and accordingly the affirmative evidence of discrimination would normally consist of inferences to be drawn from the primary facts.

The Court of Appeal (Lord Justice Neill, Lord Justice

Farquharson and Sir Roger Ormrod) so held in a reserved judgment on March 28 when dismissing the appeal of Mrs Jacqueline Anne Baker against the dismissal by the Employment Appeal Tribunal on February 26, 1988 of her appeal from the decision of an industrial tribunal sitting at St Austell on July 29, 1987 to reject her complaint that she had been discriminated against unlawfully in the course of her employment by Cornwall

County Council on the ground of her sex.

LORD JUSTICE NEILL said that if discrimination took place in circumstances which were consistent with the treatment being based on grounds of sex or race the industrial tribunal should be prepared to draw the inference that the discrimination was on such grounds unless the alleged discriminator could satisfy the tribunal that there was some other innocent explanation.

Appeal
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STOCK EXCHANGE PRICES

Firm close

ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings began April 9. Dealings end April 27. Settlement day April 30. Settlement day May 8.
Forward bargains are permitted on two previous business days.

Prices recorded are at market close. Changes are calculated on the previous day's close, but adjustments are made when a stock is ex-dividend. Where one price is quoted, it is a middle price. Changes, yields and price/earnings ratios are based on middle prices. (a) denotes Alpha Stocks.
(VOLUMES: PAGE 28)

Portfolio
PLATINUM

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WEEKLY DIVIDEND
£4,000
Claims required for +156 points
Claimants should ring 0254-53272

No. Company		Group	Close at last
1	Smiths Ind (a)	Industrial S-Z	100.00
2	Apicor Computers	Electronics	100.00
3	Hilldown (a)	Food	100.00
4	Chad Gp	Chemicals/Pharm	100.00
5	Mowlem (John)	Building Roads	100.00
6	Harris (Philip)	Industrial S-Z	100.00
7	Cussons	Food	100.00
8	Burgess Brick	Building Roads	100.00
9	Mifal	Electronics	100.00
10	Johnson Press	Paper/Print Adv	100.00
11	Metal Closures	Industrial S-Z	100.00
12	Cogson	Building Roads	100.00
13	Balfors	Food	100.00
14	Bridon	Industrial S-Z	100.00
15	Tonkins	Industrial S-Z	100.00
16	Guinness (a)	Beverages	100.00
17	Enterprise (a)	Oil/Gas	100.00
18	Swire Pacific 'A'	Industrial S-Z	100.00
19	Macarthy	Industrial S-Z	100.00
20	Traveller H (a)	Industrial S-Z	100.00
21	Kingfisher (a)	Drugs/Pharm	100.00
22	Bobby (J)	Industrial S-Z	100.00
23	Carson (a)	Newspapers/Pub	100.00
24	Smiths Ind (a)	Industrial S-Z	100.00
25	Holical Inc	Food	100.00
26	Bredan PLC	Building Roads	100.00
27	Southern	Newspapers/Pub	100.00
28	AS Elect	Electronics	100.00
29	Grand Met (a)	Beverages	100.00
30	Anglia Soc	Building Roads	100.00
31	BTR (a)	Industrial S-Z	100.00
32	Ayrshire Metal	Industrial S-Z	100.00
33	St Ives Gp	Paper/Print Adv	100.00
34	Nat West (a)	Banking/Discont	100.00
35	Poly Tech (a)	Food	100.00
36	East Of India	Food	100.00
37	Shenlight	Industrial S-Z	100.00
38	Barlow Rand	Industrial S-Z	100.00
39	RMC Gp (a)	Building Roads	100.00
40	Charlson (H)	Transport	100.00
41	Brake Bros	Food	100.00
42	Wassell	Industrial S-Z	100.00
43	Trifels	Industrial S-Z	100.00
44	Sidley	Industrial S-Z	100.00

Weekly Dividend	
MON	TUE
WED	THU
FRI	SAT
SUN	SUN

Five winners shared yesterday's Portfolio fund of £4,000. They were Mr John Wood, from Sheppley in Kent, Mr David Whitehead, from South Kelsey in Lincolnshire, Mr George Ransom-Lee, from Church Stretton in Shropshire, Sir Eric Mansford, from Epsom in Surrey, and Mrs Marie Redwell from Wymondham, Norfolk. They will each receive £1,200.

BRITISH FUNDS

No.	Company	Price	Change	%
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SHORTS (Under Five Years)	
1	Smiths Ind (a)
2	Apicor Computers
3	Hilldown (a)
4	Chad Gp
5	Mowlem (John)
6	Harris (Philip)
7	Cussons
8	Burgess Brick
9	Mifal
10	Johnson Press
11	Metal Closures
12	Cogson
13	Balfors
14	Bridon
15	Tonkins
16	Guinness (a)
17	Enterprise (a)
18	Swire Pacific 'A'
19	Macarthy
20	Traveller H (a)
21	Kingfisher (a)
22	Bobby (J)
23	Carson (a)
24	Smiths Ind (a)
25	Holical Inc
26	Bredan PLC
27	Southern
28	AS Elect
29	Grand Met (a)
30	Anglia Soc
31	BTR (a)
32	Ayrshire Metal
33	St Ives Gp
34	Nat West (a)
35	Poly Tech (a)
36	East Of India
37	Shenlight
38	Barlow Rand
39	RMC Gp (a)
40	Charlson (H)
41	Brake Bros
42	Wassell
43	Trifels
44	Sidley

FIVE TO FIFTEEN YEARS

No.	Company	Price	Change	%
1	Smiths Ind (a)	100.00	0.00	0.0
2	Apicor Computers	100.00	0.00	0.0
3	Hilldown (a)	100.00	0.00	0.0
4	Chad Gp	100.00	0.00	0.0
5	Mowlem (John)	100.00	0.00	0.0
6	Harris (Philip)	100.00	0.00	0.0
7	Cussons	100.00	0.00	0.0
8	Burgess Brick	100.00	0.00	0.0
9	Mifal	100.00	0.00	0.0
10	Johnson Press	100.00	0.00	0.0
11	Metal Closures	100.00	0.00	0.0
12	Cogson	100.00	0.00	0.0
13	Balfors	100.00	0.00	0.0
14	Bridon	100.00	0.00	0.0
15	Tonkins	100.00	0.00	0.0
16	Guinness (a)	100.00	0.00	0.0
17	Enterprise (a)	100.00	0.00	0.0
18	Swire Pacific 'A'	100.00	0.00	0.0
19	Macarthy	100.00	0.00	0.0
20	Traveller H (a)	100.00	0.00	0.0
21	Kingfisher (a)	100.00	0.00	0.0
22	Bobby (J)	100.00	0.00	0.0
23	Carson (a)	100.00	0.00	0.0
24	Smiths Ind (a)	100.00	0.00	0.0
25	Holical Inc	100.00	0.00	0.0
26	Bredan PLC	100.00	0.00	0.0
27	Southern	100.00	0.00	0.0
28	AS Elect	100.00	0.00	0.0
29	Grand Met (a)	100.00	0.00	0.0
30	Anglia Soc	100.00	0.00	0.0
31	BTR (a)	100.00	0.00	0.0
32	Ayrshire Metal	100.00	0.00	0.0
33	St Ives Gp	100.00	0.00	0.0
34	Nat West (a)	100.00	0.00	0.0
35	Poly Tech (a)	100.00	0.00	0.0
36	East Of India	100.00	0.00	0.0
37	Shenlight	100.00	0.00	0.0
38	Barlow Rand	100.00	0.00	0.0
39	RMC Gp (a)	100.00	0.00	0.0
40	Charlson (H)	100.00	0.00	0.0
41	Brake Bros	100.00	0.00	0.0
42	Wassell	100.00	0.00	0.0
43	Trifels	100.00	0.00	0.0
44	Sidley	100.00	0.00	0.0

OVER FIFTEEN YEARS

No.	Company	Price	Change	%
1	Smiths Ind (a)	100.00	0.00	0.0
2	Apicor Computers	100.00	0.00	0.0
3	Hilldown (a)	100.00	0.00	0.0
4	Chad Gp	100.00	0.00	0.0
5	Mowlem (John)	100.00	0.00	0.0
6	Harris (Philip)	100.00	0.00	0.0
7	Cussons	100.00	0.00	0.0
8	Burgess Brick	100.00	0.00	0.0
9	Mifal	100.00	0.00	0.0
10	Johnson Press	100.00	0.00	0.0
11	Metal Closures	100.00	0.00	0.0
12	Cogson	100.00	0.00	0.0
13	Balfors	100.00	0.00	0.0
14	Bridon	100.00	0.00	0.0
15	Tonkins	100.00	0.00	0.0
16	Guinness (a)	100.00	0.00	0.0
17	Enterprise (a)	100.00	0.00	0.0
18	Swire Pacific 'A'	100.00	0.00	0.0
19	Macarthy	100.00	0.00	0.0
20	Traveller H (a)	100.00	0.00	0.0
21	Kingfisher (a)	100.00	0.00	0.0
22	Bobby (J)	100.00	0.00	0.0
23	Carson (a)	100.00	0.00	0.0
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25	Holical Inc	100.00	0.00	0.0
26	Bredan PLC	100.00	0.00	0.0
27	Southern	100.00	0.00	0.0
28	AS Elect	100.00	0.00	0.0
29	Grand Met (a)	100.00	0.00	0.0
30	Anglia Soc	100.00	0.00	0.0
31	BTR (a)	100.00	0.00	0.0
32	Ayrshire Metal	100.00	0.00	0.0
33	St Ives Gp	100.00	0.00	0.0
34	Nat West (a)	100.00	0.00	0.0
35	Poly Tech (a)	100.00	0.00	0.0
36	East Of India	100.00	0.00	0.0
37	Shenlight	100.00	0.00	0.0
38	Barlow Rand	100.00	0.00	0.0
39	RMC Gp (a)	100.00	0.00	0.0
40	Charlson (H)	100.00	0.00	0.0
41	Brake Bros	100.00	0.00	0.0
42	Wassell	100.00	0.00	0.0
43	Trifels	100.00	0.00	0.0
44	Sidley	100.00	0.00	0.0

UNDATED

No.	Company	Price	Change	%
1	Smiths Ind (a)	100.00	0.00	0.0
2	Apicor Computers	100.00	0.00	0.0
3	Hilldown (a)	100.00	0.00	0.0
4	Chad Gp	100.00	0.00	0.0
5	Mowlem (John)	100.00	0.00	0.0
6	Harris (Philip)	100.00	0.00	0.0
7	Cussons	100.00	0.00	0.0
8	Burgess Brick	100.00	0.00	0.0
9	Mifal	100.00	0.00	0.0
10	Johnson Press	100.00	0.00	0.0
11	Metal Closures	100.00	0.00	0.0
12	Cogson	100.00	0.00	0.0
13	Balfors	100.00	0.00	0.0
14	Bridon	100.00	0.00	0.0
15	Tonkins	100.00	0.00	0.0
16	Guinness (a)	100.00	0.00	0.0
17	Enterprise (a)	100.00	0.00	0.0
18	Swire Pacific 'A'	100.00	0.00	0.0
19	Macarthy	100.00	0.00	0.0
20	Traveller H (a)	100.00	0.00	0.0
21	Kingfisher (a)	100.00	0.00	0.0
22	Bobby (J)	100.00	0.00	0.0
23	Carson (a)	100.00	0.00	0.0
24	Smiths Ind (a)	100.00	0.00	0.0
25	Holical Inc	100.00	0.00	0.0
26	Bredan PLC	100.00	0.00	0.0
27	Southern	100.00	0.00	0.0
28	AS Elect	100.00	0.00	0.0
29	Grand Met (a)	100.00	0.00	0.0
30	Anglia Soc	100.00	0.00	0.0
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36	East Of India	100.00	0.00	0.0
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38	Barlow Rand	100.00	0.00	0.0
39	RMC Gp (a)	100.00	0.00	0.0
40	Charlson (H)	100.00	0.00	0.0
41	Brake Bros	100.00	0.00	0.0
42	Wassell	100.00	0.00	0.0
43	Trifels	100.00	0.00	0.0
44	Sidley	100.00	0.00	0.0

INDEX-LINKED

No.	Company	Price	Change	%
1	Smiths Ind (a)	100.00	0.00	0.0
2	Apicor Computers	100.00	0.00	0.0
3	Hilldown (a)	100.00	0.00	0.0
4	Chad Gp	100.00	0.00	0.0
5	Mowlem (John)	100.00	0.00	0.0
6	Harris (Philip)	100.00	0.00	0.0
7	Cussons	100.00	0.00	0.0
8	Burgess Brick	100.00	0.00	0.0
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42	Wassell	100.00	0.00	0.0
43	Trifels	100.00	0.00	0.0
44	Sidley	100.00	0.00	0.0

BANKS, DISCOUNT HP

No

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YOUR OWN BUSINESS

Edited by Rodney Hobson

Pursuit of money is driving force for going it alone

By Brian Collett

THE two main reasons people give for starting small businesses are the wish to earn more money and a desire for independence, says a report from National Westminster Bank.

However, many people started up during the recession of the early 1980s because they were unemployed and had redundancy money to invest.

The report, based on information from nearly 2,000 of the bank's own start-up customers, is part of a continuing survey of small businesses.

While 32 per cent said they were attracted by the money, 29 per cent sought independence, 21 per cent wanted a more fulfilling career, and only 15 per cent were driven by unemployment or the prospect of it. NatWest says 93 per cent of people starting up had full-time or part-time jobs. But it believes some respondents who gave positive reasons may actually have been "writing on the wall" from their employers.

NatWest also found that most business newcomers now seek advice on starting up. During the recession, many used redundancy money to start up without getting professional advice and went out of business in the mid-1980s. The largest group in the survey, 31 per cent, used NatWest as their main source of advice, they being the

bank's customers, and 16 per cent favoured enterprise agencies.

The independence motive is reflected by the 37 per cent who relied on their savings for finance. Surprisingly, 59 per cent of the sample had no O-levels, but 51 per cent claimed a vocational qualification.

Mr Andrew Hunter, of NatWest's small business services, said: "Finding start-ups is expensive. The advertising is costly and we have to offer good deals because of the intense competition. And all the advice we offer is free."

MR FRIDAY



"It's the same as any other Friday for me!"

By Rodney Hobson

WHEN Mr John Gaunt left university he had many grand ideas. He says he spent six months in bed thinking about them. Reality took seven years, but he has provided Coventry with something tangible; a new theatre.

Mr Gaunt and a co-operative he formed in 1985 have taken over a bingo hall with the help of loans from the Government and the West Midlands Enterprise Board.

The building was originally a cinema and was a Mecca dance hall for a time. It completes its transformation to a fourth form of entertainment this month. One room has already opened as a cabaret club.

Mr Gaunt, who studied drama at university, said: "It all happened by accident. I worked at the Belgrade Theatre in Coventry, scene shifting for the pantomime. The group who had left school in the three years after I did were all on the dole and I suggested to the Belgrade that we did a play with the unemployed. I wrote it and Clive Owen, who is now on television in *The Chancer*, was in it."

It provided the impetus for the Tic Toc Theatre company, founded in 1983 by Mr Gaunt, Miss Lisa Roberts and two others who have since left.

They were joined by Mr Rob Wilkinson and Mr Paul Nolan a year later, and in 1985 they became a co-operative. Miss Caroline Butcher, who attended university with Mr Gaunt, is now also a member.

After several years touring,



Making a drama out of an old cinema: Robert Wilkinson (left) Caroline Butcher and John Gaunt

including performances at the Edinburgh Festival, they have a home and they are providing employment for more than 20 people in a region with 18 per cent unemployment.

Coventry was once a boom town, living off the motor industry. Although it still has three night clubs it has no dance hall, only two cinemas and a civic theatre.

The co-operative gained its business education going to Edinburgh. Tic Toc hired a venue from

a promoter and sold out. But it came away with no money. Next year, the group turned promoter and did the hiring out.

The proceeds subsidized the visit to the Scottish capital and performances throughout the following year.

Tic Toc co-op intends to manage its own premises for the first year before bringing in a management team.

Apart from the cabaret club, the main room will provide a venue for big bands, taking up to 900

people, while a piano bar upstairs provides a more tranquil setting.

Projected turnover is £1 million a year, an important target given that Arts Council funding for the theatre is doubtful.

Mr Gaunt said: "It's essential that the arts are subsidized, but there is no reason why theatre managements cannot be more commercially minded. Reps have been subsidized for years. Now the buzz-word is marketing. It's a joke. It's 1990, and the arts have only just discovered marketing."

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Funding the way forward

With 5,000 patients to treat every year, Hammersmith needs help to pay for a new £15 million centre

The chances of a child with leukaemia, lymphoma or bone cancer being cured depend heavily on where the treatment is given. More than half the children treated for kidney cancer outside specialist centres receive unnecessary drugs and radiation. Some British hospitals are less well equipped for cancer treatment than many in the Third World.

These are among the facts cited by Karol Sikora, professor of clinical oncology at the Royal Postgraduate Medical School at Hammersmith Hospital, in west London, when he argues for the development of more specialist cancer centres in which patients could reap the benefits of a team of experts, with all the equipment needed and backed by up-to-date research.

He says that probably several thousand of Britain's 160,000 cancer deaths a year are unnecessary, not because of the lack of dedicated professionals but because skills could be better employed if the organization of services were improved.

No one doctor, he says, can be expert at treating all cancers or using all types of the complex treatments available. They demand the skills of oncologists (cancer specialists), radiotherapists, physicists and medical, as well as surgical oncologists. Paramedical and nursing staff trained in cancer care are also necessary.

In many parts of the UK, such as Scotland and the Midlands, there is, the professor says, a logical pattern to the provision of cancer care, centred mainly on large district hospitals or university teaching hospitals with good back-up services.

In London, however, "the situation is very disturbing". Within 40 miles of the capital's centre, 23 hospitals provide all forms of cancer treatment. Yet a fifth lack some item of sophisticated equipment, almost a half do

not have a medical oncology specialist and only a minority undertake research. He says: "The fact that there are so many centres results in poor quality care for many patients." Further, because centres do not publish data on cure rates, patients cannot differentiate between centres.

He points out that data from the Childhood Cancer Research Group shows that those cared for in centres with special expertise in treating childhood cancer are likely to do better than those treated in small units. He believes the same applies to adults.

It is not only in physical care that Prof Sikora wants to see high-standard treatment made widely available. The mental attitudes of cancer patients can be important in influencing the effects of treatment.

A holistic, or whole-person approach, aims to treat the person, not just the disease and to that end he is prepared to offer, alongside conventional treatment, the newer complementary services, such as relaxation.

In that context, a patient's surroundings can also play a part. Prof Sikora and his team have only just moved out of the depressing Victorian former workhouse in west London that housed their patients. They have not moved a great distance but their latest ward accommodation is far from uplifting for the victims of a disease that invokes fear and anxiety.

Their move out of the workhouse has not, however, solved another series of problems; the radiotherapy department, out-patients clinic and laboratory, as well as the wards, are still all housed in separate buildings. It is rarely that any patient - resident or needing day treatment - will be treated in one place. Instead, they have to travel around the Hammersmith Hospital site.

For all those reasons, Prof Sikora sees the proposed £15 million cancer centre as the



Expert team: Professor Karol Sikora (left), of the Royal Postgraduate Medical School at Hammersmith Hospital, and radiographers using the linear accelerator

way forward for the 5,000 patients it will treat annually.

The centre will cater for four categories of patient who will all receive the same standard of service: local NHS patients, NHS patients from other areas, British residents with private insurance and overseas patients.

The Hammersmith Cancer Centre Appeal aims to raise £5 million to set up the non-profit making centre, with equipment and other money to come from the NHS. A commercial loan would make up any deficit.

It has been calculated, says Ariane Turner-Laing, the appeal director, that a "throughput" of 500 private patients -

10 per cent - would enable the centre to pay back the commercial loan.

Since it would be set up under a trust, none of the doctors or other staff would benefit financially from the enterprise. Any profit would be ploughed back into the centre. The appeal started on its "private phase" in February last year; the charity first has to raise a proportion of the money it is ultimately seeking through public appeal. Miss Turner-Laing said: "We set an initial target of £1 million." Before going public at the end of last month, they managed to raise almost £2 million and

will now spend the next 18 months drawing in the rest.

Already dozens of events are planned. Posters are appearing on many sites donated by the advertising industry, and "pyramid parties", private dinner parties at which guests are invited to make a donation and to hold similar parties themselves, are carrying the additional sponsorship of a wine company.

A Hyde Park "aerobathon" (an aerobics event) is planned in June, in conjunction with the Keep Fit Association. Individuals have also offered to go on sponsored walks and sponsored bicycle trips.

For patients, the "will to win" against cancer is crucial. It is that key ingredient which the new centre aims to create and maintain in its battle, in the words of the appeal slogan, to "Help Hammer Cancer". Prof Sikora hopes that when the centre is open, by 1992 or earlier, it will provide a model for similar NHS ventures elsewhere.

Putting a human face to the theory of research

The Royal Postgraduate Medical School at Hammersmith Hospital is internationally renowned for its medicine teaching and research work. That fame stretches to its coverage of the field of cancer treatment. Under the pioneering work of Dr Constance Wood, the first British woman to get involved at a senior level in cancer medicine, a linear accelerator, which produces high-energy radiation that can penetrate deep-seated tumours, was first used at Hammersmith in 1953.

It was, according to Professor Karol Sikora, a month ahead of Stamford, in California, which was simultaneously working on the development and claims that would record. Nevertheless, the professor says, it was probably the most significant development at Hammersmith. Few cancer treatment centres are now without such a machine.

The cancer research of the Fifties and Sixties was heavily weighted towards radiotherapy. More controversial in medical circles was the use, in 1965, of an expensive machine called the cyclotron. "It caused controversy for the wrong reason; but it is probably not a great form of cancer therapy," Professor Sikora says. "Although some small categories of patient probably do benefit from it."

However, the cyclotron can be used in computerized tomography, a technique that enables the doctor to take scanning pictures "sliced through" tissues to see what is happening to them *in situ*.

In 1984, the year the Hammersmith stopped using the cyclotron directly on patients, it was the first to employ positron emission tomography to determine biological changes in tumours actually in patients without having to use surgery to take samples of the tumour. The cyclotron is now used to produce the isotopes, or chemical elements, used in that technique.

Over the past 10 years, the emphasis in cancer medicine has shifted from radiotherapy to the use of drugs (chemotherapy) and, in research, to molecular biology to find out how cells work and grow, using that information to develop new agents to target cancer cells.

As Professor Sikora points out, the discovery of genes that carry codes for growth control mechanisms will almost certainly lead to a revolution in the production of anti-cancer drugs in the next decade. "These agents will

Behind the scenes are people searching for the ultimate cure

need to be investigated in the clinic and their true role as anti-cancer agents determined," he says, in backing the need for comprehensive cancer centres.

The Imperial Cancer Research Fund has provided for the department of clinical oncology a research laboratory, employing about 25 people and with a budget of nearly £1 million a year. Many of the Imperial Cancer Research Fund's laboratories are in independent facilities, with a lot at its central London headquarters, where much valuable work is developed.

At Hammersmith, Dr Bill

home most was that there was a human being at the end of the line. "It reminds you that you are talking about a real disease," he says. "Sometimes, when you get into the intellectual aspects of it, you put that to one side. It is an important part of this association; scientists can become very self-centred about their projects, their genes."

Being in a hospital setting does not mean that his work is channelled to meet the needs of the hospital. "The Hammersmith is such an eclectic place, there is not really a focus on a particular type of cancer," Dr Gullick says. Individual cancer consultants have their specialties, but the hospital overall covers a wide range. "Thus we do not have a research theme that is conditioned by clinical interests."

Often, clinicians helped to prevent researchers going down a blind alley by pursuing lines of inquiry that in the end were unlikely to add to knowledge. Similarly, the researchers could offer help to clinicians, for example in clinical trials of a new drug product commercially produced.

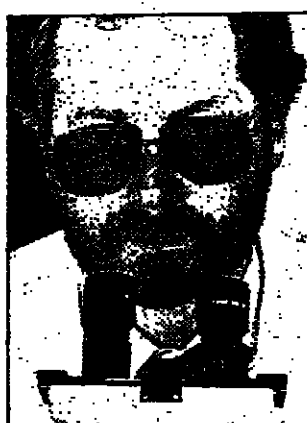
"The clinician may not have anybody on site who knows a lot about the compound involved," Dr Gullick says. "It is not really his job to be a microbiologist as well."

He cited a recent example in which one clinician had been offered such a trial and had prepared a proposal to put before the hospital's ethical committee to ensure that the trial was soundly structured. The clinician checked with Dr Gullick, who was expert in understanding the compounds involved, raised some queries and ran some tests based on the pharmaceutical company's response. The subsequent findings led the clinician to decide that it was too early to become involved in such a trial.

Although that had a negative outcome, most contacts between doctors and researchers were on the positive side.

He is pleased by the fact that at Hammersmith, being a postgraduate teaching centre, all the doctors have some interest, to a greater or lesser degree, in research.

The ICRF laboratory at Hammersmith provides fine facilities; although it is in a building apart from the areas where patients are treated, Dr Gullick sees advantages to both clinicians and researchers of their being housed in the same building, as proposed for the new centre.



Dr Gullick: enthusiasm

Gullick, whose salary is paid for by the fund, is the laboratory's head of molecular oncology and a senior lecturer at the medical school. For him, the fact that the research laboratory is situated in a hospital is invaluable.

Dr Gullick's research team is trying to determine why cancer cells, unlike normal cells, fail to stop growing and dividing and, ultimately, how that process can be interrupted. A tumour is caused by new cells growing at a faster rate than that at which old cells are dying.

He recalls telling a medical colleague that it would be convenient for a certain type of biopsy (cell or tissue sample) to be taken routinely from particular types of patient and was invited into the ward to see what was involved. Chastened after the experience, which he had not realized was painful, he revised his enthusiastic demands. "I thought maybe we should not do 100, we might get enough information from 20." But what struck

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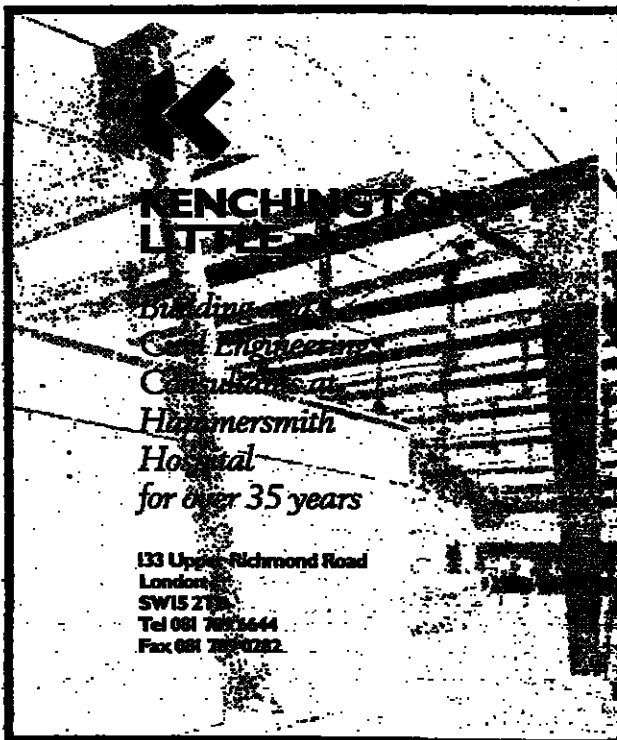
We wish the Hammer Cancer Appeal well, secure in the knowledge that it is run by such a prestigious Cancer Centre.

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HAMMERSMITH CANCER CENTRE

How Penny Brohn set up a centre where victims can try to come to terms with the life-threatening illness

New response that helps

Eleven years ago, Penny Brohn learned she had breast cancer. Like others faced with the reality of a life-threatening illness, her first feeling was one of helplessness. She says that then, and now, a doctor's response to the patient was often: "There is nothing you can do about it."

A year after the discovery that she had cancer, she helped to found the Bristol Cancer Help Centre for victims and their families. It offers complementary therapies to conventional treatment, in an atmosphere of encouragement. Within three years, demand at the centre was so great that it moved into its present larger premises, a former convent.

The centre aims to help people make the shift from feeling like a powerless victim, to taking responsibility for what happens to them.

Doctors such as Professor Karol Sikora at Hammersmith were well aware that people had varying responses to the disease and that many wanted to be able to do something. "I know that doing something does make a difference," she says. "Bristol is a place for people who feel like that."

Patients, accompanied by a friend or relative, may opt for a week's residence at a time; the centre can accommodate up to 10 resident patients, plus their companions. However, between 30 and 50 people a

week use the centre on a daily basis. There were groups of patients who seemed able to put aside the strain diagnosis engenders and forget about it, Mrs Brohn says. It was probable that they would not want to use the centre, where patients may pay according to their means, although the weekly charges are £560, and £155 for their companion.

The first shock of a patient's diagnosis was also coupled with the fear that death is inevitable.

There are many ways in which people could make the switch from negative to positive thinking, she says. A look at their diet is a simple, and quick, first step they can undertake by themselves.

Patients are also offered the services of a counsellor, so they can talk about their fears and the negative feelings they have. "There are groups for families. At the time I was first diagnosed, scant attention was paid to emotional and social needs in the hospital. But, certainly, whatever attention was going, I got it."

Patients at Bristol can choose to learn stress-control techniques, either in the form of simple relaxation and breathing exercises, "or they may go on to visualization techniques... where patients try to imagine themselves getting better, the ultimate positive thinking."

As well as fully trained medical staff such as doctors, nurses and dietitians spiritual

healers work at the centre. For some patients, the laying on of hands may only help them relax.

The Bristol treatment is not one of regimentation, and no fixed programme is on offer. The aim is to offer people choices and advice on which they feel comfortable to act. Mrs Brohn says: "We are looking to empower the patient and a lot of the techniques we use flow into one another. They will gradually find out what works best for them."

Mrs Brohn has had recurrences of her cancer. Initially, she refused conventional treatment, but in the intervening years she has accepted the need for some. "I have to confess," she says, carefully, "I have not at any time actually done exactly what any oncologist told me to do - but I have on occasions negotiated with them and ended up with a compromise package."

However, there were other patients who would now claim that their well-being was because of taking fairly simple steps towards self-generating healing.

She is conscious of the charge that she may be guilty of giving people false hope, but counters that it may be better to have false hope than none. "In any event, that is the patient's choice," she says.

Bristol offers no cures; to do so would break the law. But



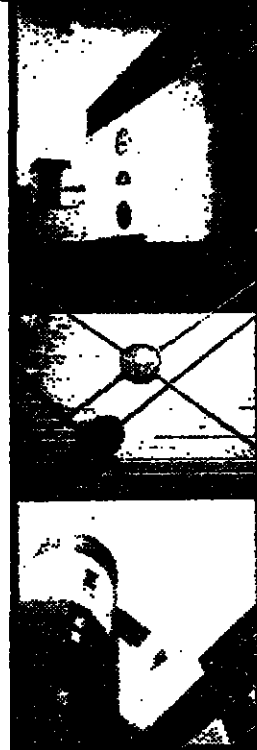
A positive approach: from left, Anne Parry, Penny Brohn and Christine Baughn

Mrs Brohn says she is impressed by the way the centre has helped strengthen people. She quotes Professor Sikora as believing that "a little bit of Bristol makes his medicine go down", and says: "It is a lovely friendly place - there is a lot of laughing and it is a happy place to be."

For the past year, the department of oncology at Hammersmith Hospital and the Bristol Centre have had formal links: a doctor and nurse team, funded by Bristol, visit Hammersmith about once a week. Between them, they are devising a way in which what is on offer at Bristol can be integrated in an NHS setting.

Professor Sikora says: "The whole shift now is towards the total care of cancer patients. We have to convey in a larger centre the style of the cottage hospital, where the patient is seen as a valued customer. That is what the Bristol Centre is very good at."

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You can be cured

A diagnosis of cancer is not a death sentence

issues and organs and can disperse cells to cause invasion elsewhere.

Tumours are usually given the name of their likely site of origin: lung cancer, cervical cancer and so on. They are also classified by the type of cell involved: a carcinoma - the most common type of cancer - comes from cells lining body cavities; these are found in the lung, colon and breast. Sarcomas are tumours from structural tissues such as muscles, tendons, and bones. Cancers of the white blood cells in bone marrow are called leukaemias, while lymphomas arise from the body's lymphatic system.

Clinical treatment of cancer falls into three broad categories: surgery, to remove the affected tissue; radiotherapy, which uses X-rays to damage irreparably the cancerous cells; and chemotherapy, the use of drugs to destroy the cancerous cells. Which combination of treatment is chosen for a cancer varies according to the person being treated. Two people with similar cancers may need differing approaches, either because of the cells that are affected, or because of their responses to treatment.

Early detection is possible in many cases, leading to a better chance of successful treatment. Understanding what can cause cancer has opened the way for people to reduce the risks, through diet, alcohol intake and exposure to chemicals. By far the greatest single measure individuals can take to stop smoking: those who smoke 20 cigarettes a day are 40 times as likely to develop lung cancer as non-smokers. As soon as smoking is stopped, the risk lessens, continuing to drop with time.

Try this test to find your rating

ONE in three Britons will get cancer. How does your lifestyle measure up? Complete these questions, add up the marks in brackets and check your score to find out whether you are at risk.

● Do you smoke: nothing (0), less than 10 cigarettes/day (5), 10-20 cigarettes/day (20), more than 20 cigarettes/day (30), an occasional cigar/pipe (4).

● Five years ago, did you smoke: nothing (0), less than 10

cigarettes/day (5), 10-20 cigarettes/day (12), more than 20 cigarettes/day (15), an occasional cigar/pipe (2).

● Is there a heavy smoker in your house or the room in which you work: yes (2), no (0).

● Do you eat fast food (eg, hamburgers, fish and chips): more than once weekly (3), less than once weekly (2), rarely (1).

● Take your height in metres and multiply it by itself. Take your weight in kilograms and

divide it by the first answer. Is your score: Men - 20-25 (0), 26-27 (6), more than 27 (10). Women - 19-24 (0), 25-26 (6), more than 26 (10).

● Do you eat meat: twice daily (2), once daily (1), occasionally/never (0).

● Do you eat high-fibre cereal for breakfast: every day (0), three times weekly (1), rarely (3).

● You are dining in your favourite restaurant. Which of the

following items on the menu would you prefer: vegetable soup (0), prawn cocktail (1); brown bread (0), white bread (1); avocado vinaigrette (0), deep-fried mushrooms (1); chicken salad (0), steak and chips (1); chips (1), baked potato (0); gooseberry pie and cream (1), fresh fruit salad (0); black forest gâteau (2), crème caramel (0).

● Do you go abroad for holidays for a warmer climate: yes (1), no (0).

● Do you use a barrier sun cream at least at the start of your holidays: yes (0), no (1).

● Does your skin go bright red for several days before a tan develops: yes (3), no (0).

● Does your job involve strenuous physical labour: yes (0), no (1).

● Do you exercise, or perform a physical sport at least once a week: yes (0), no (2).

● Do you walk at least one mile on an average day: yes (0), no (2).

● If you are a woman, do you take a contraceptive pill: yes (1), no (0).

● How many sexual partners have you had: none (0), 1-5 (1), 6-10 (2), more than 10 (3).

● In sexual relationships, do you use a barrier contraceptive method (for example, condom or cap): yes (0), no (1).

● How many first degree relatives - for example, father, mother, brother, sister - have had cancer: none (0), one (1), two (2), more than two (5).

● How much alcohol do you drink a week (one unit is one gin, whisky, etc or one half pint of beer, lager or cider): none (0), 1-14 (2), 14-30 (4), more than 30 (6).

If you have been honest, then you can get an impression of your relative cancer risk. For most things, including smoking, it is not too late to change.

SCORE:

● 80-100. Very high cancer risk. You smoke very heavily and are likely to be overweight. It's not just cancer that will kill you. Now is the time to change. See your doctor soon.

● 60-80. You have a high chance of getting cancer. You must cut down on smoking. Look at the rest of your lifestyle.

● 40-60. Watch it. Take the advice offered and review how you live.

● 20-40. Not bad. But be careful and follow the advice.

● 0-20. Low cancer risk. Keep going. There is no guarantee you will not get the disease, but you are doing all you can to avoid it.

● From Fight Cancer, by Professor Karol Sikora and Dr Hilary Thomas (BBC Books, £4.95). Royalties go to Help Hammer Cancer, Hammersmith Cancer Centre's appeal.

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For further information and details, please contact the Help Hammer Cancer Appeals Office (see below).



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Access ☐ Visa ☐ Amex ☐ Diners ☐ Account

Expiry date

Signature

Please send to: Help Hammer Cancer, Hammersmith Hospital, Du Cane Road, London W12 0NN or Freephone (0800) 414121.

THE HAMMERSMITH
CANCER CENTRE APPEAL

Putting a price on rights of passage

complained that the stann, with too close, that supporters could see into their homes from the stand, and that supporters caused trouble on match days. Councilors on the planning committee thus ordered the removal of the stand.

The Maidstone chairman, Jim Thompson, said that the club would erect a canvas screen behind the stand to prevent supporters overlooking neighbouring properties on match days.

● **Boston United** have appointed Dave Casack as player-manager. The former Rochester United manager has held a caretaker role at York Street since January.



YACHTSMEN sailing near the Hamble idea — the Ultimate 30 — but the British owners decided to opt for a new design scheduled this year to cover the racing

YACHTSMEN sailing near the Humber are the first in Britain to be given a preview of the British-designed and built Ultra 30s, the dramatic ballasted dinghies that it is intended to help establish the country's first fully-sponsored, spectator-oriented yacht race circuit (Malcolm McKeag writes).

B&Q, pictured above and owned by John Caulcutt, launched last month and sponsored by a Southampton-based DIY store chain, is the first of six boats being built to a design drawn by Rob Humphreys, who also designed Rothmans, the Whitbread Round the World Race yacht.

The Ultras are based on an American

idea — the Ultimate 30 — but the British owners decided to opt for a one-design class that built to the same plans) rather than the more traditional idea of allowing owners to choose their own design. The intention was to keep costs down and avoid an American-style "arms race": Humphreys designed the most successful boat on the US circuit. An Ultra costs about £30,000 to build and, according to Cankurt, a sponsor could put one on the circuit for about £50,000 (including running costs) for the first year, £20,000 for following years. The budget and the nature of the circuit, he says, should appeal to medium-size companies, especially those seeking to promote a local identity.

Five half-hour television programmes are

Ultra meetings will be held this season in June, at Queen Mary SC, London; July, at Brighton; at Ocean Villa, Southampton, and at Falmouth; and August at Plymouth.

The fate of the proposed world championship, planned for Falmouth August, is still in doubt because of the dispute which arose last winter, when a company called High Profile Yachts attempted to take over management of the regatta circuit: High Profile's attempts were resisted by the British owners, and their deal with the American promoters of the Ultimate Yacht Race regattas subsequently fell through.

Run to Manila decides

THE first three-yacht European team to challenge for Asia's premier Corum China Sea Race Series trophy set off from Hong Kong for Manila yesterday, knowing this will be its make or break race.

The 650-mile classic is worth the treble points and the Europeans must use it to draw away from Australia, with whom they are tied, and start overhauling Hong Kong, whose Australian and New Zealand skippers have so

far set the pace in the five-even

Leading the European attempt is the London-based Sunstreaker with the French Corum 11 and the Portuguese-owned Jelik. Sixty-two yachts began the race to Manila in an unusual light nor'wester that allowed spinnakers to be set straight away. The China Sea Race Series is being considered for inclusion in the Champagne Mumm World Cup.

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SPORTS BOOK: HOUGHTON REMEMBERS 36
RACING: 1,000 GUINEAS LATEST 39
FOOTBALL: ROBSON'S SQUAD 40
GOLF: FALDO'S QUEST 41

FRIDAY APRIL 13 1990

Lamb adopts bold approach

From Alan Lee, Cricket Correspondent, Antigua

ALLAN Lamb, faced with the unfair prospect of being the man who lead England from the euphoric edge of glory to the familiar sense of failure, responded yesterday with a decision which declared all such negative thoughts redundant.

Lamb chose to bat first on winning the toss in this match to decide the series. He did so in the knowledge that the pitch would be at its liveliest early on but with the conviction that it represented England's best chance of winning. His batsmen then worked assiduously to vindicate the acting captain's judgement on a first day of vital importance.

Faithful to the pattern of weather on this tour, torrential rain fell overnight but the Recreation Ground survived it and play began on time before a surprisingly modest crowd.

Neither side put out their optimum eleven. For the West Indies, the absence of Marshall, with his fourth separate injury of the winter, not only raised the suspicion that a great fast bowler is feeling his years, but also revived the career of Baptiste, who had not played a Test for six years. England were again without David Smith, discounted late on Wednesday, and Fraser who went through the same match-day fitness test he had undergone in Barbados, with similarly painful results. The selectors, reluctantly in at least one case, omitted Gower to leave an unchanged team but Lamb altered one thing from the previous game when he elected to bat.

On the face of it, it was reckless and the incongruous celebrations of the Antiguan groundstaff, stationed close to Lamb when he announced his verdict, was a good enough guide to the fact that the captains need not have bothered to toss at all.

But if Richards was happy to bowl, on a pitch produced by Andy Roberts with bounce the priority, Lamb reasoned that it could turn out to be the best time to bat in the match if only England could negotiate the first hour.

They so nearly succeeded. The drinks trolley was poised on the boundary, ready for the first break of the day, when Stewart was the first man out. He had batted in positive mood, assaulting anything loose with the full swing of the bat. Occasionally he still looks awkward against the short ball, Ambrose once getting him in an ungainly tangle but his conscious decision to take

on the quick bowlers, rather than allowing them to dictate the terms, has rescued his tour from oblivion.

Worryingly, he was out here in exactly the same way he fell in both innings in Barbados, driving without due attention and edging to first slip. Richards, the catcher on all three occasions, this time juggled with the ball before closing his hands on it, and confined his celebrations to something more circumspect than the routine which caused offence and controversy in Barbados.

The successful bowler was Walsh whose omission from the previous game gave rise to some of the inter-island accusations which used to be the staple diet of West Indian cricket. He took Stewart's wicket in his second over and might immediately have followed it with that of Bailey, who clearly lost sight of a slower yorker which somehow just missed off stump.

David Gower recalls that, in 1981, Colin Croft caused similar problems here by bowling wide of the crease from the pavilion end, his hand merging with the red girders of the grandstand.

That was the first Test played on this pocket-sized ground, hemmed in by a prison on one side and a church on the other. There have been subtle improvements since, but the feel of the place is unchanged, the sound of steel bands and the smell of fried food stalls a constant, ethnic backdrop.

Bailey lived dangerously against Walsh for a time, nudging a lifting ball just wide of short leg and edging close to Greenidge's dive at third slip. But the confidence he had begun to show in Barbados visibly returned once he had navigated past lunch.

Larkins, meanwhile, was proceeding quietly. He failed to score in either innings of the Fourth Test, just as Bailey had in the third, so it was reassuring for them both to share a sizeable and important stand.

It produced 59 runs in precisely two hours before Larkins, pushing at a ball of immaculate length and line from Ambrose, edged it low to second slip, where Hooper capably took the catch.

This brought in Lamb himself, a different Lamb from the man who looked so hamstrung by negative thoughts on the final day in Barbados.

Attacking selectively from the start, he scored 26 of 42 added in seven overs before Bailey cut unwisely at Bishop and was caught behind.

Prize-money increases

The Britannic Assurance county championship prize-fund will exceed £100,000 for the first time this summer, with the winners' share rising to £40,000. If Worcestershire retain the title, they will be £3,000 better off than after winning last year. The total of

£102,750, compares with £95,875 last year and £54,000 in 1984 — the first year of the company's sponsorship.

The runners-up will collect £20,000, compared with £18,500 last year, the third-placed team receiving £11,500, the fourth £5,750.

Watkins hits out at ban

MIKE Watkins, the former Wales and Newport captain, has hit out at the 36-week ban imposed by the Welsh Rugby Union on him after he was sent off in a celebratory game last month.

Watkins, aged 38, who retired from senior rugby three years ago, was leading an international XV at Caer-

philly to open the club's new extension, when he fell foul of referee Gwyn Bowden.

After a few 'words' with the Taswell referee, Watkins tried to stuff the ball up his jersey in a prank which had the crowd roaring. Unfortunately for Watkins, Bowden took a dimmer view and sent him off.



End of Stewart: the England opening batsman turns to see his edged drive safely grasped by Richards at slip

SCOREBOARD FROM ANTIGUA

ENGLAND won toss

England		First Innings	
		30	40
W Larkins c Hooper b Ambrose	30	3	181
A J Stewart c Richards b Walsh	27	3	59
R J Bailey c Dujon b Bishop	42		
A J Lamb not out	28		
R A Smith not out	16		
Extras	0		
Total (3 wickets)	143		

N Hussain, D J Capel, R C Russell, P A DeFreitas, G C Small, D E Malcolm to bat.

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-42, 2-101, 3-143

Umpires: D Archer and A Weekes

WEST INDIES: V A Richards, D L Haynes, C G Greenidge, R B Richardson, A L Logie, C L Hooper, T P J L Dujon, E A E Baptiste, C E L Ambrose, I R Bishop, C A Walsh.

Gower is sacrificed on altar of loyalty

By Alan Lee

ENGLAND yesterday came very close to sacrificing a stated policy of loyalty in search of quality by selecting David Gower for the decisive final Test match.

The selectors, I understand, were seriously divided on the issue. Allan Lamb, the acting captain, wanted Gower in his team. Micky Stewart, the team manager, insisted it would be wrong for him to replace a fit member of the original party.

Gower, who has batted only twice since last summer, was asked on Wednesday evening if he felt properly prepared to

play. He told Lamb that he was and only heard that he had, after all, been omitted following a lengthy debate, involving all three selectors, half an hour before the start of play. This fascinating sub-plot has its origins in Trinidad, where Graham Gooch approached Gower, then working alongside me for *The Times*, asking him to help out following his own hand injury. It was a move unlikely to gain the unequivocal support of Stewart, who had been instrumental in banishing Gower from the captaincy and the tour team, last September.

Gower has subsequently been shuffled in and out of this squad before, at short notice, he agreed to accompany the party to Antigua. As late as Wednesday morning, Stewart said that he would only play in an emergency caused by injury.

Lamb, it transpires, tried hard to persuade Stewart that England's prospects of winning this vital match, and the series, would be greater with Gower playing ahead of either Hussain or Bailey. Logically he was correct, but the principle of loyalty to a selected squad sustained Stewart's

argument and, it seems, persuaded a wavering Gooch.

Dignified as ever, Gower was nevertheless visibly deflated. He said: "It was put to me last night that I might play. I was very nervous about it because it would have been as much a gamble for me as for the team. I am a bit disappointed, but I can well see their problem in dropping one of the regular guys."

Gower's new county, Hampshire, conclude their pre-season tour in Barbados today and he aims to rejoin them for the flight home.

Sluman is back in spotlight

From a Correspondent
Hilton Head Island
South Carolina

JEFF Sluman, a former US PGA champion, yesterday enjoyed a rare appearance in the spotlight when he earned a share of the lead early in the first round of the MCI Heritage Classic here.

Sluman, whose 1988 US PGA victory remains his only tour success, took advantage of the perfect morning conditions to gather three birdies, an eagle and a bogey in the first 16 holes around the Harbour Town course.

His score was matched by Stephen Tate and Michael Hulbert, of the United States, who had played 13 and 11 holes respectively.

Sluman, aged 32, is perhaps the least-known winner of a big championship in the past decade. However, he put his mediocre form behind him to make the best start to a tournament for longer than he cares to remember.

Hulbert, who turns 32 tomorrow, reached the turn in five under par to lead the field, but he bogeyed the par-four 10th after missing the green and making a poor chip shot to fall back into a tie with Sluman and Tate.

Tate, aged 28, a three-times tour winner, birdied four of the first six holes.

Nick Faldo, the Masters champion and Europe's lone representative, had a late tee time, as did Greg Norman, the man he is poised to overtake at the top of the Sony world rankings.

The best of the early finishers was Billy Andrade, aged 26, who fired an unblemished 68, three under par.

Astaire offers £3m for Tyson-Bruno rematch

MIKE Tyson and Frank Bruno are to be offered £3 million to fight at Wembley Stadium this summer.

Jarvis Astaire, the promoter, said that the 10-round heavyweight bout, pencilled in for Saturday, July 21, would be Tyson's first contest since his surprise world title defeat by James "Buster" Douglas in February.

"I have spoken to Bruno's manager, Terry Lawless, and he is going to speak to Frank about it," Astaire said yesterday.

"And I have asked James Binns, our lawyer in the United States, to pass the offer on to Tyson's lawyer, Robert Hirth."

These were the two men

who completed the legal requirements before the Tyson-Bruno fight in Las Vegas 14 months ago, when Bruno lost in the fifth round after a courageous challenge. He has not fought since but that performance has kept intact his lofty status with the British public.

Astaire said Tyson would be offered a £2 million guarantee and Bruno a £1 million guarantee.

"It represents a great opportunity for Bruno to crash straight back in because Tyson obviously is a better opponent for Bruno than he was considered a year ago," Astaire said.

Bruno received about £2 million for his Las Vegas bout with Tyson.

Blackmail case is adjourned

ALAN Rothwell, who is accused of blackmailing the former British Lion, Mike Burton, after stealing international match tickets from him, was remanded on bail yesterday.

Rothwell, aged 45, of Cranham Lane, Churchdown, Gloucester, who used to work for Burton's sports management company, is charged with breaking into the firm's offices and stealing a Clubb wall safe containing a quantity of tickets for the match between England and Wales. He is also charged with making an unwarranted demand with menaces for £100,000 from Burton for the return of the tickets.

At a previous hearing, when reporting restrictions were lifted at the defence's request, Gloucester magistrates were

told Rothwell took hundreds of the tickets to expose a black market racket.

Jon Holmes, the solicitor for the defence, then told the court that Mr Rothwell wanted to expose what he described as the illicit sale of international tickets and initiate an inquiry.

Holmes said: "This has implications far beyond Alan Rothwell. We are opening a massive can of worms. My client feels there should be a full-scale inquiry into how more than 900 tickets got into the hands of one person." The court heard that Rothwell had been dismissed without warning from Mike Burton Management, of Brunswick Road, Gloucester, last year.

He had worked for a year as an accountant for Burton's

firm, which organizes luxury trips to leading sporting events. Holmes said that after Rothwell's dismissal, he had used his inside knowledge of the firm's security system to steal a safe containing 900 tickets for the England and Wales match at Twickenham on February 16.

He left a blackmail note at the office threatening to release details about the tickets to the authorities and media unless Burton paid him £100,000.

Yesterday, Peter Ashby, the prosecuting solicitor, said the papers in the case were not yet ready for Mr Rothwell to be committed to Gloucester Crown Court for trial. The magistrates agreed to adjourn until May 10 for criminal proceedings.

BBC victory in ratings war

By Peter Ball

THE BBC's decision to screen the FA Cup semi-final replay live on Wednesday against ITV's *The Match*, made for a riveting two hours television, but both the networks and the football authorities may decide it is an experiment not to be repeated.

In particular, ITV, who had moved the Arsenal v Aston Villa game from the Saturday, only to find the BBC coming up with a much more gripping alternative at the last minute, are likely to start talks to try to prevent a recurrence, and the Football League management committee were asked yesterday to discuss the matter with the Football Association.

Having undoubtedly won the battle for viewers, even the fact that the game went into extra time playing into their hands, the BBC were conceding little yesterday.

"What's got to be remembered," a quietly jubilant BBC spokesman said, "is that, in our case, the dog is wagging the tail, unlike the ITV contract, where the tail wags the dog."

"We didn't move the fixture or alter the kick-off time. The FA said when it was to go out and at what time, and we transmitted it at their request as part of our public service commitment."

Following a weekend, described in an internal memo by Paul Fox as showing "the most exciting sport I can remember in 40 years in television", in which they had both tense semi-finals, a nail-biting Grand National and the US Masters golf championship all shown live, the BBC feel that they have clearly demonstrated their continuing role as a major player in sport.

ITV, who are waiting for the

ratings to show whether they had lost bravely or suffered a defeat of landslide proportions, were less happy. "Two sets of viewers were upset," grumbled the ITV spokesman.

"Football fans, who had to choose between two matches they wanted to see, and non-football fans, who found both major channels given over to football. It is a nonsense to have two key games screened live simultaneously."

For ITV, of course, the stakes are higher. They had their full quota of advertisements in the programme — with the clash only becoming apparent at such short notice, there was little time for agencies to revise their schedules.

However, if the usual audience of over seven million for *The Match* is reduced to half, which must be well within the bounds of possibility, then their advertisers will undoubtedly be very unhappy.

and may even be requiring compensation.

Oldham may bank up to £3 million from their cup exploits this season. The pain of FA Cup semi-final defeat by Manchester United will be eased by a giant cash injection for their bank account.

Oldham will not confirm details of income from their giantkilling Littlewoods and FA Cup campaigns, but it is estimated at around £2 million from 18 knockout ties alone, including spin-offs such as television fees and souvenir sales.

Fire suits fail

Accident — New firefighting suits that cost over £2 million to develop appear to have failed their first big test. Firemen claim they become dangerously hot.

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